#### Minutes of the

# American Legion Auxiliary 101st Department Convention

### April 27-29, 2023 Peters Creek Post 33

The Department of Alaska Convention began with a joint opening ceremony for all Family Members. Many guests were introduced and several of them welcomed Family members to the convention. There was a Post Everlasting Ceremony as well as the Military Child's Table Ceremony. After Opening Ceremonies, the Americanism Luncheon was held. Once the luncheon was completed, members were dismissed to their various meeting spots. The American Legion Auxiliary and the Honorary Junior Auxiliary held their meetings at the River of Life Lutheran Church (21301 Voyles Blvd, Chugiak, AK).

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by President Anarene Robinson

The invocation was given by Department Chaplain Connie Landmesser.

Th Pledge of Allegiance was led by Honorary Junior Auxiliary President Amber Gilbreath.

#### **ROLL CALL**

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<u>Absent</u>
National Officers			
NEC Member Penny Mazonna		X	
Alternate NEC Sue Diaz			
Department Officers			
President Anarene Robinson	X		
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President April Sinclair	X		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President Lori Fruhwirth	X		
Secretary Barbara Nath	X		
Treasurer Diana Estrada	X		
Chaplain Connie Landmesser	X		
Historian Annette Gwalthney-Jones			
Sgtat-Arms Frances Bedel			
Executive Committee Member Robyn Downs			
Executive Committee Member Josette Kinslow			

<u> </u>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Standing Committees			
Alaska Girls State – Lori Fruhwirth	X		
Americanism – Carole Johnson		X	
Audit – Sue Diaz			
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Colleen Newman			
Children and Youth – Robyn Downs			
Community Services – Shirley Shadbolt			
Constitution and Bylaws – Sue Diaz			
Distinguished Guests – Penny Mazonna		X	
Education and Scholarship – Samantha Funk			
Finance – Lisa Boyles			X
History – Annette Gwalthney-Jones			
Junior Activities – Nina Ketelsen			X
Leadership – Keri Black			
Legislative – Penny Mazonna			
Membership – April Sinclair		2 <b>L</b>	
National Security – Frances Bedel			
Past Presidents' Parley – Jane Larson			
Poppy – Marge Blankenship			
Public Relations – Cheryl McKey			Y
VA&R – Lori Fruhwirth		••••••	
Units			
Jack Henry Unit 1	Y		
Joseph T. Craig Unit 3			
Seward Unit 5			X
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6		••••••	
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11			
Lynn Canal Unit 12			Y
Sitka Unit 13			
Matanuska Valley Unit 15		••••••	
General Buckner Unit 16			
Robert G. Blair Unit 17			
Ninilchik Unit 18			Y
George H. Plumley Memorial Unit 20		•••••	
Gladys M. Heintz Unit 27			Y
Spenard Unit 28		•••••	A
Muldoon Unit 29			
Con Miller Unit 30			
Peters Creek Unit 33			
Chappie James Unit 34			$\mathbf{v}$
		•••••	Λ
Susitna Valley Unit 35			
			$\mathbf{v}$
Peter Heyano Unit 442	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		A

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Past Department Presidents			
Eva Aulston			X
Lynn Bash			
Margaret Blankenship			
Ruth Brown			X
Betty Bumala			
Susan Caswell			
Sharon Cherrette		X	
Lavonne Collier			X
Sue Diaz	X		
Beverly Eads	X		
Lori FitzSimons			X
Rehta Foster	X		
Francisca Guilford			X
June Haas			X
Laverne Kearns			X
Jane Larson	X		
Debbie Lowndes	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		X
Penny Mazonna	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	X	
Carolyn Null	X		
Evelyn Oliver			X
Jill Pawson			X
Linda Schmitt			X
Jean Shandy			X
Etta Singleton			X
Sue Waldhaus			
Lisa Williamson			
Barbe Wolkoff	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		X

President Anarene Robinson welcomed everyone and thanked Peters Creek for their hard work. She asked the following to stand and be recognized:

- Past Department Presidents
- Honorary Junior Auxiliary Members
- Department Officers

Those attending the Department Convention for the first time stood and were introduced.

At this time, the Honorary Junior Auxiliary members were dismissed to their convention,

#### **DEPARTMENT CONVENTION COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Credentials – Barb Nath, Donna Brockschmidt and Vera Hart

Rules – April Sinclair

Constitution – Sue Diaz and Beverly Eads

Resolutions – Sue Todd, Lori Fruhwirth and Shirley Shadbolt

Finance - Sharon Forte, Connie Landmesser and Brenda Fiddick

Nominations – Sue Caswell

Parliamentarian – Sue Diaz

Distinguished Guests - Penny Mazonna

Audit – Sue Diaz, Beverly Eads and Penny Mazonna

History – Annette Gwalthney-Jones, Amy Baker, Sandra Toenies and Dee Jones

Poppy – Marge Blankenship, Debbie Brahm and Josette Kinslow

Chaplain – Paula Gallagher, Michelle Giddings and Barbara Ziemblicki

Balloting – Lisa Williamson, Rehta Fosters, and Jane Larson

Scholarship – Samantha Funk, Frances Bedel and Lori Fruhwirth

Unit Member of the Year/Salute to Service Members – Jane Larson, Carolyn Null,

Beverly Eads, Frances Bedel and Keri Blace

#### READING OF CONVENTION RULES

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President April Sinclair read the Convention rules.

#### **GOVERNING DOCUMENTS**

A review of the recommended revisions to all governing documents was conducted by Susan Diaz (Constitution and Bylaws Chair). It was noted that there had been some additional changes since the original documents were distributed in January. Those changes were incorporated into the document emailed out in April and the copies available for members at today's meeting. The documents provided today contained only the pages with revisions, not the complete document. Sue Diaz (Constitution and Bylaws Chair) and Beverly Eads read the revisions.

#### Constitution

- Cover change the year.
- Page 3 Section 2, items (a) and (b) were revised to change the word "comprised" to "composed".
- Pages 4 and 5. in several places the word "person" was changed to member"
- Page 7, Section 2 the sentence "In addition, the National Executive Committee Member is a delegate due to their position.
- It was recommended to change "NEC" to the words "National Executive Committee" throughout all governing documents. All members were in agreement with this.

#### Bylaws

- Change the year on the cover page to 2023.
- Throughout the document, change the word "person" to "member".
- Page 2, Article II, Section 4 change the word "two-year limit" to "two-term limit".
- Page 5, Article IV, Section 4 Delete the words "when issues arise or if necessary" in the 5<sup>th</sup> line.
- Page 6 Article V, Section 4 Change the word "Gift Shop" to "Projects" in the third line.
- Page 8, Section 10 add the words "American Legion" in front of Auxiliary in the 2<sup>nd</sup> line.
- Page 11 Article IX –change the words "govern this organization" to "be the parliamentary authority" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> line.

#### **Standing Rules**

- Change the year on the cover page to 2023.
- Page 2 add " 2023" to the end of adopted years.
- Page 3, Code of Ethics change "organizations" to "organization's" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> line.
- Page 9, Calendar, July delete the first line as there are no plans of action at this time from National.
- Page 9, Calendar, November delete the words "order poppies" and change to "Poppy orders received by Department Secretary along with payment". Also add "Girls State information/application information to all high schools and units."
- Page 9, Calendar, December Change the words "Gift Shop" to "Christmas Projects" and change the word "chairmen" to "chairs".
- Page 10, Calendar, March Add "March 1st Deadline for applications for Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarships to be submitted electronically directly to National Headquarters. ALA National Headquarters will then forward those received from each Department."
- Page 10, Calendar, March Delete the words, "as well as the Merilyn Stock/Evelyn Oliver Scholarship and Agnes (Aggie) Parks Scholarship,"
- Page 10, Calendar, March Add the words, March 15<sup>th</sup> all Unit submissions for scholarship (maximum of one per unit per scholarship) must be received by the Department Secretary for the Education Committee Chair.

It was recommended and approved that this be revised to read "received by the Department Education Chair with a copy to the Department Secretary.

- Page 10, Calendar, April Add the words, "Applications for the Merilyn Stock/Evelyn Oliver Scholarship are due by the first day of the Department Convention, but can be sent to the Department Secretary before that date."
- Page 11, Department Per Capita Dues changes the per capita dues to \$29 per annum for senior members, with the national per capita dues changed to \$18 per annum.

Minutes of theApril 27-29, 2023101st Department ConventionPage 5 of 29

It was stated that there will be no other changes unless the Finance Committee recommends a change to the Department portion of dues. It was noted that most units were not expecting any change this year.

• Page 12, National Girls State Conference and National Children & Youth Conference – change the allocation for travel to \$2,000.00 each for airfare to include 2 nights lodging for each conference.

This will require approval from the Finance Committee.

Page 13, Promoting Scholarships – add the following to the end of Children of Warriors
National Presidents' Scholarship: This scholarship application is submitted electronically
directly to National Headquarters by March 1<sup>st</sup>. National Headquarters will then forward
applications received to the appropriate departments. Departments will then review all
applications received and select one candidate to submit to the Division competition.

There was some discussion about mid-year reports. While they are not a requirement of National, some Division chairs are requesting them and they should be submitted as requested. There are also some departments that have a mid-year convention and give reports at that time.

#### Policy and Procedures

- Change the year on the cover page to 2023.
- Throughout the document the word "person" was changed to "member" and the word "chairmen" was changed to "chairs"
- Page 2 add the year "2023" to the list of adoption years.
- Page 4 C at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, delete the words "on Saturday" and replace with the words" at a date and time set by National Headquarters.
- Page 5 E delete the words "delegates or alternates" and add the words "registered for convention, but are not required to be a delegate or alternate.
- Page 7 J and K add the words "from Units without submission" to the end of each sentence.
- Page 10, #14 "delete the words "for information only" and change to "for a vote with the knowledge that the Resolutions Committee rejected the resolution".
- Page 10, #16 delete the word "voice" and change to acclimation".
- Page 19 B delete the word "bi-monthly" on line 5 and add the words "based on its publication schedule" after the words "Alaska Legionnaire
- Page 19, 2A change the word "Gift Shop" to Christmas Project"
- Page 20 4C and Page 21, 5C Add these words to both places "While the Department Secretary/Treasurer" is a paid position, The Department Secretary/Treasurer will still have the ability to vote on Department actions"

Lisa Williamson quoted the National Constitution from Article 5, Section 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph which reads: The National Secretary and National Treasurer shall be members of the National Executive Committee, and, when the positions are held by employees of National Headquarters, the National Secretary and National Treasurer shall serve with all rights except the right to vote."

Minutes of the April 27-29, 2023
101st Department Convention Page 6 of 29

President Anarene Robinson indicated that at a leadership meeting it was stated that it was not advisable to have anyone receiving financial compensation to hold a vote.

Sue Diaz stated that she had checked with National and was told it was okay to let them have a vote.

All those present agreed to table the revisions on pages 20 4C and 21 5C until further review is completed.

- Page 22, 9A fix the typo on the words "membe" line 2.
- Page 24 D add new "When someone is appointed to a Department Chair position, it is for the administrative year. However, should that Department Chair become a National Chair of the same committee, it is a conflict. They shall recuse themselves from voting when their unit or department is involved."

Lisa Williamson suggested using the words "national appointee" instead of "National Chair."

April gave the example that Alaska submitted a VA&R award. Because she was a national appointee, she sent all award nominations out to be reviewed and recused herself from that review process. Those people selected the winning nomination.

No member of any department program that has applications or submission for scholarship or contests including the department chair shall be personally related to or members of the same local legion family entity. They must recuse themselves.

It was noted that there is a possibility of conflict in this situation.

A recommended re-wording for this is

"When someone is appointed to a Department Chair position, it is for the administrative year. However, should that Department Chair become a National or Western Division appointee of the same committee, they should recuse themselves if there is a vote at the Department level involving their unit".

• Page 25 D – delete the words "The National action plan and reporting information shall be adapted for Unit use. Do not send an identical copy of the National report forms to Units.". Add the following at the end: "If National Headquarters no longer does program action plans, the Department Chair will create a program action plan for Alaska. This plan will be completed and forwarded to the Department Secretary prior to the Fall Conference and can be distributed to all units at Fall Conference."

While there is not currently a plan of action, committee chairs should go to the national web site each year to determine whether not one exists.

Colleen Newman noted that if there is no plan of action for new year, you can find past plans of action from other years.

Lisa stated it will possibly be called program engagement plan or PEP talk or something along those lines.

• Page 26 I – add the words "is no longer required. However, a midyear report to the" in front of the words "Division Chair".

It was agreed that the words "is no longer required" would be deleted, but the rest would remain. It will read "A mid-year report to the National Division Chair, if requested, must be sent

- Page 26 K replace the words "will be replaced" with "may be replaced".
- Page 31 C add the following at the end of #3: This committee shall consist of the Department Chairs for National Security and Leadership as National Headquarters has moved the Member of the Year to the Leadership Committee and the Service Member of the Year to National Security Committee.

We are not getting rid of the Past President's Parley but are changing how things are done for these two awards.

- Page 35 Changing the dues to \$29 with \$18 for National and \$11 for Department.
- Page 37 N removing the word "unit" and inserting the word "department"

#### CORRESPONDENCE

President Ann read the letter of resignation from Barbara Nath as our Department Secretary. She will continue until September 1, 2023. She is going to move to Texas to help support her son and his family ("Granny Nanny"),

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- There is a silent auction for a picture of the twin towers
- Past President Jane Larson has a basket fundraising.
- Team Alaska magnets are available for \$20
- There are many fundraising opportunities by many units.

#### **RECESS**

The meeting was recessed at 4:18 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 28, 2023.

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2023**

# **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Anarene Robinson at 9:00 a.m.

A prayer was offered and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

# **ROLL CALL**

	<b>Present</b>	Excused	<b>Absent</b>
National Officers			
NEC Member Penny Mazonna		X	
Alternate NEC Sue Diaz			
Department Officers			
President Anarene Robinson	X		
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President April Sinclair	X		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President Lori Fruhwirth	X		
Secretary Barbara Nath	X		
Treasurer Diana Estrada	X		
Chaplain Connie Landmesser	X		
Historian Annette Gwalthney-Jones	X		
Sgtat-Arms Frances Bedel	X		
Executive Committee Member Robyn Downs	X		
Executive Committee Member Josette Kinslow	X		
Standing Committees			
Alaska Girls State – Lori Fruhwirth			
Americanism – Carole Johnson		X	
Audit – Sue Diaz	X		
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Colleen Newman	X		
Children and Youth – Robyn Downs	X		
Community Services – Shirley Shadbolt	X		
Constitution and Bylaws – Sue Diaz	X		
Distinguished Guests - Penny Mazonna		X	
Education and Scholarship – Samantha Funk		X	
Finance – Lisa Boyles			X
History – Annette Gwalthney-Jones	X		
Junior Activities – Nina Ketelsen	X		
Leadership – Keri Black	X		
Legislative – Penny Mazonna		X	
Membership – April Sinclair	X		
National Security – Frances Bedel	X		
Past Presidents' Parley – Jane Larson	X		
Poppy – Marge Blankenship	X		
Public Relations – Cheryl McKey			X
VA&R – Lori Fruhwirth	X		

ROLL CALL (continued)	<b>TD</b> 4		A.W
	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<u>Absent</u>
II			
Units Lock Hongy Unit 1	$\mathbf{v}$		
Jack Henry Unit 1			
Joseph T. Craig Unit 3			$\mathbf{v}$
Seward Unit 5  Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6		•••••	A
-			
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11			37
Lynn Canal Unit 12			
Sitka Unit 13		•••••	X
Matanuska Valley Unit 15			
General Buckner Unit 16			
Robert G. Blair Unit 17			
Ninilchik Unit 18		•••••	X
George H. Plumley Memorial Unit 20			
Gladys M. Heintz Unit 27			X
Spenard Unit 28	X		
Muldoon Unit 29	X		
Con Miller Unit 30	X		
Peters Creek Unit 33	X		
Chappie James Unit 34			X
Susitna Valley Unit 35	X		
C. Russell Huber Unit 57	X		
Peter Heyano Unit 442			X
Past Department Presidents			
Eva Aulston			X
Lynn Bash			X
Margaret Blankenship			
Ruth Brown			X
Betty Bumala			X
Susan Caswell			
Sharon Cherrette		X	
Lavonne Collier			X
Sue Diaz			
Beverly Eads			
Lori FitzSimons			X
Rehta Foster			
Francisca Guilford			X
June Haas			
Laverne Kearns			
Jane Larson		•••••	A
Debbie Lowndes			$\mathbf{Y}$
Penny Mazonna			Λ
•			$\mathbf{v}$
Carolyn Null			
Evelyn Oliver	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•••••	Λ

<u>I</u>	<u>Present</u>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Past Department Presidents (continued)			
Jill Pawson			X
Linda Schmitt			X
Jean Shandy			X
Etta Singleton			X
Sue Waldhaus			
Lisa Williamson	X		
Barbe Wolkoff		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	X

#### **RECESS**

The Convention went into recess for committee meetings at 9:28 a.m.

#### **RETURN FROM RECESS**

The Convention returned from recess at 9:55 a.m.

#### **FIRST READING OF NOMINATONS**

The Nominating Committee read the letters of endorsement, as well as indicating those who had signed an Intent to Run for a position.

Western Division National Vice President – Beverly Eads (Unit 17) and Penny Mazonna (Unit 35).

#### **NATIONAL VISITORS**

At this time, our National Dignitaries joined the meeting. They included the National President and the SAL National Commander. Gifts were presented to the National President and her aide.

#### **FIRST READING OF NOMINATIONS (continued)**

The Nominating Committee continued the first reading of nominations.

National Executive Committee Person – Penny Mazonna (Unit 35) Alternate National Executive Committee Person – Intent to Run – Sue Diaz (Unit 20) President – April Sinclair (Unit 57) 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Lori Fruhwirth (Unit 11)

#### FIRST READING OF NOMINATIONS (continued)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Intent to Run – Annette Gwalthney Jones (Unit 1)
 Chaplain – Carrie Hintz (Unit 35)
 History – Nina Ketelsen (Unit 35)
 Sgt-at-Arms – Frances Bedel (Unit 57)
 Executive Committee – Robyn Downs (Unit 1), Josette Kinslow (Unit 30) and Erin Lamothe (Unit 1)

#### FIRST READING OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2023-1 – This resolution is regarding supporting the goals and ideals of Alaska poppy day in May (Friday before Memorial Day).

Resolution 2023-2 – This resolution is recognizing the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jack Henry Unit 1.

There are courtesy resolutions which will be presented on Saturday.

## **NATIONAL VISITORS**

The National Commander and his aide spoke to the Auxiliary.

### **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAW**

Sue Diaz (C&B Chair) noted the following:

- Page 12 The Finance Committee had approved the travel allocation raise to \$2,000 for the National Girls State Conference and the National Children and Youth Conference.
- Page 24D This will be revised to read: "For the sake of transparency, any member serving on a selection committee for awards, scholarships, contests, etc. must recuse themselves if an entry/submission is from their Legion Family entity, or immediate family."

There were no other revisions or information for the decision regarding the governing documents.

**MOTION**:

by Sue Caswell and seconded to approve the governing documents as presented and with additional revisions.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

#### **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 11:01 for the Past Presidents Parley Luncheon.

During the PPP Luncheon, the selections for Unit Member of the Year and Salute to Service Members were announced. National had indicated that we could submit more than one person for the Salute to Service Members as long as they were from two different branches of service.

Unit Member of the Year – Donna Brockschmidt (Unit 16)

Salute to Service Members – SSgt Paige Haynes (Air Force) and Chief Petty Officer Stefano Joseph (Joe) Torre (Coast Guards)

#### **RETURN FROM RECESS**

The Convention returned from recess at 2:08 p.m.

#### PARADE OF CHECKS

Members were informed that the checks collected at the Auxiliary meeting would go to the Auxiliary. Those collected at the Children and Youth Luncheon would go to the American Legion. Money was turned into the Treasurer.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee recommended that the per capita dues to the department not be increased at this time.

After reviewing the material regarding the web site, the Finance Committee recommended going with the Crucible Design web site proposal at a cost of \$2,000.

**MOTION**: by Rehta Foster and seconded that the dues remain at \$29.00 with no increase.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**MOTION**: by Colleen Newman and seconded to accept the proposal from Crucible for our web site construction and design.

The following comments were made:

- If we go with Crucible, we need security on the web site. Will the \$2,000 option be able to provide that security.
- There was one that would customize our web site for \$6,000 and a couple others.
- We should allow people to go on the website to look at it, but not have access to private documents,
- Need a way to make the web site secure.

- What information is going to be contained on web site other than chairs that provides contact information? (There is currently no personal information)
- Minutes are public information and should be available.
- The unit has a knowledgeable person.
- It is a compelling presentation, but \$2,00 isn't enough to get what we want.
- It is necessary to get donations to make this happen.
- The same company cannot just update the web site. They will have to use the WordPress system.
- To rebuild the web site is a \$6,000 fee and it will meet our needs. We did receive a discount from the company offering to do the web site for \$6,000. There is a monthly fee for support.
- We don't have the finances to spend \$6,000 will need to fundraiser.
- Why doesn't each unit raise \$1,000 to support getting a new web site?

After a voice vote, it was decided to do a head count for votes.

In favor of the \$2,000 web site -20 Opposed – more than 20

The motion failed.

#### **MOTION**:

by Colleen Newman that each unit provide a donation to purchase the program for \$6,000 and cover the cost.

#### Comments included:

- The monthly fee would be \$65.00
- Not all units can donate the same amount. They should do what they can.
- Can we afford the \$65 monthly fee.
- The following commitments were made:

Unit 1	\$1,000 as long as department put in \$2,000
Unit 6	\$100
Unit 11	\$500
Unit 16	\$500
Unit 17	\$100
Unit 28	\$1,000
Unit 29	\$500
Unit 30	\$500
Unit 33	\$500
Unit 35	\$250
Unit 57	\$500

The motion carried by voice vote.

**MOTION**:

by Rehta Foster and seconded that the Department of Alaska pay the monthly maintenance fee and also contribute \$2,000 toward the web site.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

#### **JUDGING AND AWARDS**

- Poppy scrapbook contest was won by C. Russell Huber Unit 57 who donated their winnings to the Department poppy program.
- Poppy Wreath contest had seven wreaths submitted. 3<sup>rd</sup> place went to Jack Henry Unit 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Matanuska Valley Unit 15 and 1<sup>st</sup> place to Susitna Valley Unit 35. The winnings were donated to the web site costs.
- Chaplain's prayer book contest had only one entry. The winner was Susitna Valley Unit 35 who donated the winnings to Children and Youth.
- History book contest was won by Jack Henry Unit 1 who donated their winnings to the Alaska Leadership Fund.
- The Scrapbook contest was won by Spenard Unit 28 who donated their winnings to the Alaska Leadership Fund.

#### NATIONAL CONVENTION ATTENDEES

It was noted that Alaska will probably have only 8 delegates and 8 alternates. Those would be selected by the Department President and the Department Secretary. Anyone not selected as a delegate or alternate would be considered a guest.

The following indicated that they would be attending National Convention

- Ann Robinson
- Anette Gwaltney-Jones
- April Sinclair
- Barb Nath
- Barbara Ziemblicki
- Bev Eads
- Brenda Fiddick
- Carolyn Null
- Colleen Newman
- Danielle Tarjorman
- Debbie Brahm
- Diana Estrada
- Donna Brockschmidt
- Erin Lamothe
- Jane Larson
- Jeanne Ostness
- Jessica Blankenship
- Josette Kinslow
- Linda Blankenship

Those planning to attend National Convention (continued)

- Lisa Williamson
- Lori Fruhwirth
- Marge Blankenship
- Penny Mazonna
- Robyn Downs
- Samantha Cody
- Shirley Shadbolt
- Sue Caswell
- Sue Diaz
- Sue Waldhaus
- Vera Delong

#### **MOTION**:

by Rehta Foster and seconded to approve all those who had indicated that they would be attending National Convention with delegates and alternates to be determined at a later date.

There were five individuals who indicated they would be willing to serve as pages for the National Convention. President Anarene Robinson selected Robyn Downs and Brenda Fiddick as her pages.

Lisa Williamson said it is about the mission. There are lots of challenges. She thanked everyone for their support.

April spoke about why membership is important. She loves membership. President Vickie's theme involved race cars and so April used that theme to show where out units stood at this time with regard to membership. She noted that where we sit at National Convention is determined by our ranking. The higher our percentage the closer we will be to the stage.

April also spoke about ALAMIS. She reminded units that once they selected and approve the people to be allowed access to ALAMIS for their unit, that a letter needs to be sent to Diana and she will get those persons on line with National. Each unit can have up to 2 people with access to ALAMIS. There are three tiers with costs associated with each tier.

- Tier 1 They have access to look at ALAMIS, but can make no change \$10
- Tier 2 This should be someone with a little more experience on ALAMIS. They can enter membership applications, however transmittals will still have to be submitted \$15
- Tier 3 Someone should not move to Tier 3 until they have been on Tiers 1 and 2 for at least six months. They have to have a debit/credit card \$20

#### **RECESS**

The Convention went into recess at 3:32 p.m. so that members could attend the joint Boys/Girls State meeting occurring at 4:00 p.m. at Post 33. The Convention would return on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023

# **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by President Anarene Robinson

The Department Chaplain provided a prayer

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

# **ROLL CALL**

	Present	Excused	Absent
National Officers			
NEC Member Penny Mazonna		X	
Alternate NEC Sue Diaz			
Department Officers			
President Anarene Robinson	X		
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President April Sinclair	X		
2nd Vice President Lori Fruhwirth			
Secretary Barbara Nath	X		
Treasurer Diana Estrada			
Chaplain Connie Landmesser	X		
Historian Annette Gwalthney-Jones			
Sgtat-Arms Frances Bedel			
Executive Committee Member Robyn Downs			
Executive Committee Member Josette Kinslow	X		
Standing Committees			
Alaska Girls State – Lori Fruhwirth	X		
Americanism – Carole Johnson		X	
Audit – Sue Diaz	X		
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Colleen Newman	X		
Children and Youth – Robyn Downs	X		
Community Services – Shirley Shadbolt	X		
Constitution and Bylaws – Sue Diaz	X		
Distinguished Guests – Penny Mazonna		X	
Education and Scholarship – Samantha Funk	X		
Finance – Lisa Boyles			X
History – Annette Gwalthney-Jones	X		
Junior Activities – Nina Ketelsen	X		
Leadership – Keri Black	X		
Legislative – Penny Mazonna		X	
Membership – April Sinclair	X		
National Security – Frances Bedel	X		
Past Presidents' Parley – Jane Larson	X		
Poppy – Marge Blankenship			
Public Relations – Cheryl McKey			X
VA&R – Lori Fruhwirth	X		

Minutes of the 101st Department Convention

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Units			
Jack Henry Unit 1	X		
Joseph T. Craig Unit 3			
Seward Unit 5			X
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	············· 2 <b>k</b>
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11			
Lynn Canal Unit 12			X
Sitka Unit 13			
Matanuska Valley Unit 15		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
General Buckner Unit 16			
Robert G. Blair Unit 17			
Ninilchik Unit 18			X
George H. Plumley Memorial Unit 20		••••••	
Gladys M. Heintz Unit 27			X
Spenard Unit 28		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Muldoon Unit 29			
Con Miller Unit 30			
Peters Creek Unit 33			
Chappie James Unit 34			Y
Susitna Valley Unit 35		••••••	
C. Russell Huber Unit 57			
Peter Heyano Unit 442			Y
Past Department Presidents	•••••	••••••	
Eva Aulston			X
Lynn Bash			
Margaret Blankenship			
Ruth Brown			X
Betty Bumala			
Susan Caswell			············· 2 <b>k</b>
Sharon Cherrette			
Lavonne Collier			X
Sue Diaz		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Beverly Eads			
Lori FitzSimons			X
Rehta Foster			
Francisca Guilford			X
June Haas			
Laverne Kearns			
Jane Larson			
Debbie Lowndes			X
Penny Mazonna			
Carolyn Null			
Evelyn Oliver			X
2.01,11 011,01	•••••		

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Past Department Presidents (continued)			
Jill Pawson			X
Linda Schmitt			X
Jean Shandy			X
Etta Singleton			X
Sue Waldhaus	X		
Lisa Williamson	X		
Barbe Wolkoff			X

#### **JUDGING/AWARDING (continued)**

<u>POW/MIA contest</u> – There were four entries submitted. The winning entry was from C. Russell Huber Unit 57.

<u>Beads Contest</u> – At the beginning of the Convention, members were informed that there were beads in their bags. To further communication, members were encouraged to talk to each other and ask for their beads. The President was looking for the person who was successful at communication and ended up with the most beads. The winner was Junior member Charlotte Clausen-Grim.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

The second reading and voting on resolutions was conducted at this time.

Resolution 2023-1 (Poppy Day) was recommended for approval by the Resolutions Committee.

**MOTION**: by Suzanne Todd and seconded to approve Resolution 2023-1 (Poppy Day).

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2023-2 (Jack Henry Unit 1 Anniversary) was recommended for approval by the Resolutions Committee.

**MOTION**: by Suzanne Todd and seconded to approve Resolution 2023-2 (Jack Henry Unit 1 Anniversary).

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2023-3 (Thanking Peters Creek Post 33 Family) was recommended for approval by the Resolutions Committee.

**MOTION**: by Suzanne Todd and seconded to approve Resolution 2023-3 (thanking Peters

Creek Post 33 family).

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 2023-4 (thanking President Anarene Robinson) was recommended for approval by the Resolutions Committee.

**MOTION**: by Suzanne Todd and seconded to approve Resolution 2023-4 (thanking President

Anarene Robinson).

The motion carried by a standing ovation of approval.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)**

<u>Education Committee</u> – Samantha thanked Lori and Frances for helping with the selection process. The Education Committee had applications for the following applications with the selected winners shown and their applications forwarded to National for consideration:

Children of Warrior – Amber Gilbreath General Buckner Unit 16 Spirt of Youth – Amber Gilbreath, General Buckner Unit 16 Junior Member – Mallory Collins, Peters Creek Unit 33

<u>Auxiliary Emergency Fund Committee</u> – Colleen reported that Zona Gregg was the winner of the jar of money. Barb Nath had to pay for her phone going off during opening ceremonies. Colleen had 100 military bracelets for sale for \$5 each. For the year, AEF has awarded \$118,000.

### **SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORTS**

Barb expressed her gratitude to everyone for their support over the years. She stated she has truly appreciated serving the American Legion Auxiliary as Department Secretary and while sad to go, will still be involved.

**MOTION**: by Beverly Eads and seconded that Barbara Nath be given an Honorary Past

Department President position.

Beverly noted that Barb has done an excellent job in her position.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**MOTION**: by Carolyn Null and seconded to make Barbara Nath an honorary lifetime

member.

There was a discussion on the difference between a PUFL and an honorary lifetime member.

It was noted that as a PUFL your membership is paid now. When National raises dues, it never goes up for PUFL members.

#### **AMENDED**

**MOTION**: by Carolyn Null and seconded to make Barbara Nath a PUFL (Paid Up For Life)

member instead of an honorary lifetime member.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Diana thanked the Auxiliary for all the help this last year. It has been a busy year.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Robinson noted that when things have to get done, we stand up and do it. This has been amazing. She has been told at this Convention that we are awake and alive. We have renewed what the American Legion Auxiliary is about. She loves everyone. She thanked Patty for stepping in and taking over for Sue Caswell.

**MOTION**: by Lori Fruhwirth and seconded to accept the President's Report.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION**: by Lisa Williamson and seconded that the Gaming Permit be continued with

Loyal Ladies.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Lisa Williamson was asked to provide information about the Western Division National Vice President (WDNVP). There are five divisions. Alaska is in the Western Division. There are 10 departments in the Western Division. The WDNVP is on the National Executive Committee. There is a lot of travel as well as a lot of long weekends. They do not usually travel to Hawaii. Sue Diaz noted it is a lot of work.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A live auction was held on the Diamond Art Poppy made by Unit 57. The auction netted \$500 and was sold to Anarene Robinson. The money will be donated to the Department Poppy Program.
- There is another outcry auction being held on a quilt made by Pam Cawley's mother. Proceeds will go to the Team Alaska Alaska Leadership fund.
- Lisa's homecoming is September 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> in Fairbanks.
- Marge has poppies for sale. Donations will go to the Department Poppy program.
- If you donate \$100 as an individual to AEF, National will send a pin to you.

#### **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 10:05 a.m. for the Children and Youth Luncheon.

#### **RETURN FROM RECESS**

The Convention returned from recess at 1:51 p.m.

#### **Girls State Board meeting report**

The Board met and had two motions for approval.

#### **MOTION**:

by Brenda Fiddick and seconded that if there are not 12 applications for Girls State by May 10<sup>th</sup>, then the Director will look at the possibility of joining with another department.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

# MOTION:

by Penny Mazonna and seconded that Lori Fruhwirth and Sue Diaz be authorized to travel with the Citizens to the department chosen.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

# **ELECTIONS**

# **ROLL CALL**

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
National Officers			
NEC Member Penny Mazonna	X		
Alternate NEC Sue Diaz	X		
Department Officers			
President Anarene Robinson	X		
1st Vice President April Sinclair	X		
2nd Vice President Lori Fruhwirth	X		
Secretary Barbara Nath	X		
Treasurer Diana Estrada	X		
Chaplain Connie Landmesser	X		
Historian Annette Gwalthney-Jones	X		
Sgtat-Arms Frances Bedel			
Executive Committee Member Robyn Downs	X		
Executive Committee Member Josette Kinslow	X		
Standing Committees			
Alaska Girls State – Lori Fruhwirth	X		
Americanism – Carole Johnson			X
Audit – Sue Diaz	X		
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Colleen Newman	X		
Children and Youth – Robyn Downs	X		
Community Services – Shirley Shadbolt	X		
Constitution and Bylaws – Sue Diaz	X		
Distinguished Guests - Penny Mazonna	X		
Education and Scholarship - Samantha Funk	X		
Finance – Lisa Boyles			X
History – Annette Gwalthney-Jones	X		
Junior Activities – Nina Ketelsen			X
Leadership – Keri Black	X		
Legislative – Penny Mazonna	X		
Membership – April Sinclair	X		
National Security – Frances Bedel	X		
Past Presidents' Parley – Jane Larson	X		
Poppy – Marge Blankenship	X		
Public Relations – Cheryl McKey			X
VA&R – Lori Fruhwirth	X		

ROLL CALL (continued)	D 4	T 1	41 4
	<u>Present</u>	<b>Excused</b>	<u>Absent</u>
Unito			
Units Jack Henry Unit 1	$\mathbf{v}$		
Joseph T. Craig Unit 3			
Seward Unit 5			$\mathbf{v}$
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6		•••••	Λ
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11			
			$\mathbf{v}$
Lynn Canal Unit 12			
Sitka Unit 13		•••••	A
Matanuska Valley Unit 15			
General Buckner Unit 16			
			v
Ninilchik Unit 18		•••••	X
George H. Plumley Memorial Unit 20			37
Gladys M. Heintz Unit 27		•••••	X
Spenard Unit 28			
Muldoon Unit 29			
Con Miller Unit 30			
Peters Creek Unit 33			
Chappie James Unit 34		•••••	X
Susitna Valley Unit 35			
C. Russell Huber Unit 57			
Peter Heyano Unit 442			X
Past Department Presidents			
Eva Aulston			X
Lynn Bash			X
Margaret Blankenship	X		
Ruth Brown			X
Betty Bumala			X
Susan Caswell			X
Sharon Cherrette			X
Lavonne Collier			X
Sue Diaz	X		
Beverly Eads	X		
Lori FitzSimons			X
Rehta Foster	X		
Francisca Guilford			X
June Haas			X
Laverne Kearns			X
Jane Larson			
Debbie Lowndes			X
Penny Mazonna			
Carolyn Null			
Evelyn Oliver			X
= : j			

	<u>Present</u>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Past Department Presidents (continued)			
Jill Pawson			X
Linda Schmitt			X
Jean Shandy			X
Etta Singleton			X
Sue Waldhaus			
Lisa Williamson	X		
Barbe Wolkoff			X

# **VOTING STRENGTH**

Members with individual votes, must be present to have a vote. There is only one vote for each Senior member, not one for each position.

UNIT	<b>30 DAY</b>	UNIT	<b>CHARTER</b>		
<u>NAME</u>	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>STRENTH</b>	<b>VOTE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	
Jack Henry Unit 1	265	27	1	28	
Joseph T. Craig Unit 3	72	7	1	8	
Seward Unit 5 (ABSENT)	138	14	1	0	
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit	686	9	1	10	
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11.	54	5	1	6	
Lynn Canal Unit 12 (ABS)	ENT) 73	7	1	0	
Sitka Unit 13 (ABSENT)	42	4	1	0	
Matanuska Valley Unit 15.	96	10	1	11	
General Buckner Unit 16	122	12	1	13	
Robert G. Blair Unit 17					
Ninilchik Unit 18 (ABSEN	<b>NT</b> )65	7	1	0	
George H. Plumley Unit 20	0127	13	1	14	
Gladys Heintz Unit 27 (Al	<b>BSENT</b> ). 10	1	1	0	
Spenard Unit 28					
Muldoon Unit 29	93	9	1	10	
Con Miller Unit 30					
Peters Creek Unit 33					
Chappie James Unit 34 (A	<b>BSENT</b> ) 18	2	1	0	
Susitna Valley Unit 35					
C. Russell Huber Unit 57					
Peter Heyano Unit 442 (A)	<b>BSENT</b> ) 12	1	1	0	
	TOTAL UNIT STRE				
NATIONAL OFFICERS					
NEC Penny Mazonna				1	
Alternate NEC Sue Diaz					
TOTAL NATIONAL OFFICER STRENGTH2					

#### **VOTING STRENGTH (continued)**

# DEPARTMENT OFFICERS Treasurer Diana Estrada 1 TOTAL DEPARTMENT OFFICER STRENGTH......10 STANDING COMMITTEES Alaska Girls State Lori Fruhwirth (already has a vote)......0 Auxiliary Emergency Fund Colleen Newman......1 TOTAL STANDING COMMITTEE STRENGTH......6 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS Eva Aulston (ABSENT)......0 Ruth Brown (ABSENT) Betty Bumala (ABSENT)......0

# **VOTING STRENGTH (continued)**

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS (continued)	
Beverly Eads	
Lori FitzSimons (ABSENT)	0
Rehta Foster	1
Francisca Guilford (ABSENT)	0
une Haas (ABSENT)	
Laverne Kearns (ABSENT)	
ane Larson (already has a vote)	0
Debbie Lowndes (ABSENT)	0
Penny Mazonna (already has a vote)	
Carolyn Null	1
Evelyn Oliver (ABSENT)	0
ill Pawson (ABSENT)	0
Linda Schmitt (ABSENT)	0
ean Shandy (ABSENT)	0
Etta Singleton (ABSENT)	0
Sue Waldhaus	1
Lisa Williamson	1
Barbe Wolkoff (ABSENT)	0
TOTAL PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT STRENGT	
TOTAL DEPARTMENT VOTING STRENGTH	234

# **2<sup>nd</sup> READING OF NOMINATIONS**

Western Division National Vice President – There were two nominations for Western Division National Vice President: Beverly Eads (Unit 17) and Penny Mazonna (Unit 35). Both nominees were given the opportunity to speak. The vote was held by ballot. The Western Division National Vice President will be Beverly Eads of Robert G. Blair Unit 17.

<u>National Executive Committee Member</u> – Penny Mazonna has been nominated for the position of National Executive Committee Member. President Anarene Robinson ask if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Anarene Robinson declared Penny Mazonna the National Executive Committee Member for the 2023-2025 term by acclimation.

<u>Alternate National Executive Committee Member</u> – Sue Diaz had submitted a Letter of Intent to accept if nominated.

**MOTION**: by Amy Baker (Unit 20) and seconded to nominate Sue Diaz for the position of Alternate National Executive Committee member.

President Anarene Robinson ask if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Anarene Robinson declared Sue Diaz the Alternate National Executive Committee Member for the 2023-2025 term acclimation.

<u>Department President</u> – April Sinclair (Unit 57) has been nominated for this position. President Anarene Robinson ask if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Anarene Robinson declared April Sinclair the Department President for the 2023-2024 year by acclimation.

<u>Department 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</u> – Lori Fruhwirth (Unit 11) has been nominated for this position. President Anarene Robinson ask if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Anarene Robinson declared Lori Fruhwirth the Department 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for the 2023-2024 year by acclimation.

<u>Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</u> – Annette Gwalthney-Jones has submitted a Letter of Intent to Accept if nominated.

**MOTION**: by Robyn Downs and seconded to nominate Annette Gwalthney-Jones for the position of Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

President Anarene Robinson ask if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Anarene Robinson declared Annette Gwalthney-Jones the Department 2nd Vice President for the 2023-2024 year by acclimation.

<u>Department Chaplain</u> – Carrie Hintz (Unit 33) has been nominated for this position. President Anarene Robinson ask if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Anarene Robinson declared Carrie Heintz the Department Chaplain for the 2023-2024 year by acclimation.

<u>Department Historian</u> – Nina Ketelsen (Unit 35) has been nominated for this position. President Anarene Robinson ask if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Anarene Robinson declared Nina Ketelsen the Department Historian for the 2023-2024 year by acclimation.

<u>Department Sergeant-at-Arms</u> – Frances Bedel (Unit 57) has been nominated for this position. President Anarene Robinson ask if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Anarene Robinson declared Frances Bedel the Department Sergeant-at-Arms for the 2023-2024 year by acclimation.

<u>Department Executive Committee</u> – There were two nominations for Department Executive Committee – Robyn Downs (Unit 1), and Josette Kinslow (Unit 30). President Anarene Robinson asked if there were any other nominations.

**MOTION**: by Jeanne Ostnes and seconded to nominate Erin Amber Lamothe (Unit 1) for the position of Department Executive Committee.

Because there are only two Executive Committee positions and three nominations, voting was done by ballot. After counting the ballots, President Anarene Robinson declare Robyn Down and Josette Kinslow members of the Executive Committee for the 2023-2024 year.

#### FINANCE/2023-2024 BUDGET

Members were provided copies of the proposed budget. Diana indicated that she will assure that in the future the Finance Committee receives the proposed budget to allow time for an in-depth review prior to being brought forward for a vote.

Diana then reviewed the budget page by page for members.

The budget was accepted as presented.

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Sue Diaz indicated that a review was conducted of the department books. There were some errors found and these were corrected.

### **HONORARY JUNIOR OFFICEERS**

The following slate of officers was presented:

President – Alexus Grim (Unit 57)

1st Vice President – Melanie Rodeheaver (Unit 35)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Azmariah Barnes (Unit 35)

Secretary – Renee Doyle (Unit 35)

Chaplain – Alize (Ali) Coyle (Unit 35)

Historian – Teyven Chya (Unit 35)

Sergeant-at-Arms Charlotte Grim (Unit 57)

Azalea Chya-Folmar (Unit 35)

**MOTION**: by Patty Mazonna and seconded to accept the slate of officers for the Honorary

Junior Auxiliary

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

The ALA Department Convention adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Nath

Department Secretary