

Department President Lori Fruhwirth Officially opens the 103rd Annual American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention Palmer, Alaska MINUTES

THURSDAY, April 24th, 2025

2:00 pm Call to Order – Department President Lori Fruhwirth

Invocation – Department Chaplain Carrie Hintz Pledge of Allegiance Preamble

ROLL CALL

NEC introduces
Welcome – National President Trish Ward
Introduction of A L A
Past Department Presidents
Department Executive Committee
Junior Honorary Officers

All members attending the Department Convention for the first time, please stood and introduce themselves.

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Credentials Unit Voting Strength

	Department Secretary Ann Robinson Secretary + 2
Rules	Annette GwAnnette Gwalthney-Jones
Constitution and Bylaws	Jena Arntzen Chair + 2
Resolutions	Jane Larson + 2
Finance	Brenda Fiddick chair+2
Nominations	Susan Caswell PDP
	Plus Unit President/Delegate from each unit in attendance
Risk & Compliance	Chrysti Leigh chair + 2
	Historian +2
Poppy Book	Frances Bedel Chair +2
	Carrie Hintz Chaplain + 2
Balloting/Count	Lisa Williamson + 2
Scholarship	Patty Mazonna + 2
Unit Member/Service Member of	the Year Award

Reading of Convention Rules

Department First Vice-President Annette Gwalthney-Jones

Membership (ALA MIS) - Diana Estrada

Department Convention Committee Meetings (See Appointments above)

Governing Documents Recommended Amendments Read

Department Committee Yearbook Presented

3:35 pm Recess

FRIDAY, April 25th, 2025

7:00 – 8:45 a.m. **Breakfast at MTA**

9:00 a.m. **Convention Reconvened** – President Lori Fruhwirth

Invocation – Chaplain Carrie Hintz

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL (Ann Robinson)

NEC Penny Mazonna

President Lori Fruhwirth

1st Vice Annette Gwalthney-Jones

2nd Vice Nina Ketelsen

Secretary Anarene Robinson

Treasurer Diana Estrada

Chaplain Carrie Hintz

Historian Charlene Martin

Sgt. At Arms Sabrina Schmidt

Excecutive Committie Member Brenda Fidick

Excecutive Committie Member Erin LaMonthe

Chairs

Alaska Girls State Chair Nina Ketelsen

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Children and Youth Amy Baker

Community Service Erin Lamothe

Distinguished Guests Penny Mazonna

Education and Scholarship Patty Mazonna-Jones

Minutes of Department, April 24-26, 2025

Finance Brenda Fiddick

Leadership Colleen Newman

Legislative Penny Mazona

National Security Brenda Fiddick

Units Represented

Jack Henry Unit 1

Joseph T. Craig Unit 3

Seward Unit 5

Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6

Dorman H. Baker Unit 11

Matanuska Valley Unit 15

General Buckner Unit 16

Robert G. Blair Unit 17

Ninilchik Unit 18

Spenard Unit 28

Muldoon Unit 29

Peters Creek Unit 33

Susitna Valley Unit 35 C. Russel Huber Unit 57 9:15 a.m. National President Trish Ward training

11:30 RECESS

NOON

Auxiliary – Past Presidents' Parley (PPP) Luncheon at Post 15

(ALL Auxiliary members and member veterans are invited to attend the luncheon

at Post 15) POC April Sinclair

Unit Member of the Year Sandra Toenies from Unit 57

2:00 **CONVENTION RECONVENED** by President Lori Fruhwirth

First Reading of Nominations – Nominating Committee

pm

First Reading of Resolutions – Resolutions Committee

Governing Documents Amendments and Vote

The following adjustment to Article VIII – Charters in our Bylaws passed with an ammedment is as follows:

The Department Executive Committee may counsel units attached to their department for any good and sufficient cause. Counsel action may include censure, probation with corrective terms, or initiating the charter cancellation process. The National Executive Committee has final authority over all unit charter cancellations. Counsel action must follow the principles of fundamental fairness, which include notice and an opportunity to be heard, If it appears that a unit charter should be cancelled, every effort should be made to assist the unit in maintaining their charter.

Parade of Checks – Announcement – Parade of Checks

Children & Youth Fund

Unit 1 \$200

Unit 29 \$200

Unit 16 \$160

Unit 18 \$100

Unit 28 \$1028

Unit 5 \$250

Unit 33 \$333.33

Unit 57 \$257

Unit 20 \$150

Children & Youth Dept. Unit 57 \$100

Unit 28 Vets Project \$228

Poppy Unit 1 \$200

Unit 29 150 Unit 28 \$228

Unit 20 \$150

AEF National Unit 28 \$1528

AEF Dept. of Alaska Unit 1 \$200

Unit 29 \$200 Unit 15 \$250

Unit 18 \$300 Unit 28 \$528

Unit 5 \$250 Unit 20 \$200

Unit 57 \$257

Girls State Citizens Unit 28 \$800

Unit 57 \$800

Girls State Donation Unit 16 \$116

Unit 1 \$200 Unit 28m\$1028 Unit 57 \$257 Unit 35 \$150

VA&R Unit 28 \$328

Fisher House Unit 28 \$228

Future Development Unit 57 \$150

Finance/Budget Finance Committee Chair Brenda Fiddick Service to Veterans – Barb Nath Department Committee Reports (continued) 4:00 Recess

SATURDAY, April 26th, 2025

7:00 to 8:30 a.m. Breakfast at MTA

9:00 a.m. **CONVENTION RECONVENED** by President Lori Fruhwirth

Invocation – Department Chaplain Carrie Hinz

Pledge of Allegiance – Department 1st Vice President Annette Gwalthney-Jones

Address by National Dignitaries

Secretary Anarene Robinson read communication from our Treasurer Diana Estrada stating she would not be continuing on as our Treasurer.

Second Reading of Resolutions – Reading of Curtesy Resolutions –

Resolutions Committee Jane Larson moved the following 2 resolutions be adopted. It was seconded and passed.

2025-1 Department of AK to MatanuskaValley Unit 15

2025-2 Department of AK to Lori Fruhwirth

Department Committee Reports (continued)

11:00 a.m. Secretary/Treasurer Reports

Ann Robinson, Secretary

Diana Estrada, Treasurer Gaming Permit – **Department President Report** – Lori Fruhwirth

2:00 p.m. **CONVENTION RECONVENED** by President Lori Fruhwirth

Past Presidents' Parley Report – April Sinclair

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Pre-convention passed to add a MOTION to add a day to our Fall Conference. Vote

passed.

Motion to move responsibility of processing membership to the Department

Secretary....passed

Roll Call of Officers, Chairs, PDP and Units For Elections

ROLL CALL (Ann Robinson)

Units

Represented

NEC Penny Mazonna

President Lori Fruhwirth

Jack Henry Unit 1

1st Vice Annette Gwalthney-Jones

Joseph T. Craig Unit 3

2nd Vice Nina Ketelsen Seward Unit 5

Secretary Anarene Robinson

Treasurer Diana Estrada

Chaplain Carrie Hintz

Seward Offt 3

Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6

Dorman H. Baker Unit 11

Matanuska Valley Unit 15

Historian Charlene Martin

Sgt. At Arms Sabrina Schmidt

General Buckner Unit 16

Robert G. Blair Unit 17

Excecutive Committie Member Brenda Fidick

Ninilchik Unit 18

Excecutive Committie Member Brin LeMonths

Snowad Unit 28

Excecutive Committie Member Erin LaMonthe Spenard Unit 28
Chairs Muldoon Unit 29

Alaska Girls State Chair Nina Ketelsen

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Peters Creek Unit 33

Chappie James Unit 34

Children and Youth Amy Baker

Community Service Erin Lamothe

Susitna Valley Unit 35

C. Russel Huber Unit 57

Distinguished Guests Penny Mazonna

Education and Scholarship Patty Mazonna-Jones

Finance Brenda Fiddick
Leadership Colleen Newman
Legislative Penny Mazona
National Security Brenda Fiddick
Poppy Frances Bedel
Public Relations Lisa Williamson
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Nina Ketelsen

Unit Voting Strength

Department Secretary Ann Robinson

Check of Current Membership Cards Completed

Department Diana Estrada(35) and Beverly Eads (17)

Nominations

2nd Reading of Nominations

Election of Officers for 2025-2026

NEC Penny Mazonna
President Annette Gwalthney-Jones
1st Vice Nina Ketelsen
2nd Vice Charlene Martin
Secretary Anarene Robinson
Treasurer Pam Crawley
Chaplain Valerie Rose
Historian Chrysti Leigh
Sgt. At Arms Sabrina Schmidt
Excecutive Committie Member Brenda Fidick
Excecutive Committie Member Robyn Downs

Indication of those wishing to attend the 2026 National Convention Kentucky Sign up sheets were completed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adjournment of ALA 103rd Department Convention Lori Fruhwirth

Girls State Board Meeting Nina Ketelson

Post Convention DEC Meeting

Newly Elected 2025-2026 President Annette Gwalthney-Jones