

**MINUTES OF THE
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA**

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

**April 26-28, 2018
(Post 28 – Anchorage, Alaska)**

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Barbe Wolkoff at 10:44 a.m.

The Presentation of Colors was done by Sgt.-at-Arms Zona Gregg.

Department Chaplain Marge Blankenship gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by ALA Honorary Department of Alaska Junior Historian Renee Doyle.

All members sang the National Anthem and recited the Preamble.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

OFFICERS

President Barbe Wolkoff
1st Vice-President Debbie Lowndes
2nd Vice-President Jane Larson
Secretary Barbara Nath
Treasurer Diana Estrada
Sgt.-at-Arms Zona Gregg
Chaplain Marge Blankenship
Historian Colleen Newman
Executive Committeewoman Carrie Doores
Executive Committeewoman Lori Fruhwirth

ROLL CALL (continued)

PRESENT

STANDING COMMITTEES

Americanism Chair Barbara Nath
Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman Zona Gregg
History Chair Colleen Newman
Children and Youth Chair Barbara Hummel
Community Service Chair Penny Mazonna
Distinguished Guests Chair Lisa Williamson
Education and Scholarship Chair Darlene Sheldon
Finance Chair Debbie Lowndes
Girls State Chair Yvonne Lamm
Junior Activities Chair Carrie Doores
Leadership Chair Sue Caswell
Membership Chair Jane Larson
National Security Chair Lisa Williamson
Poppy Chair Lori Fruhwirth
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Chair Debbie Lowndes

UNITS

Jack Henry Unit 1
Joseph P. 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
George H. Plumley Unit 20
Spnard Unit 28
Muldoon Unit 29
Peters Creek Unit 33
Susitna Valley Unit 35
C. Russell Huber Unit 57

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Lavonne Collier
Susan Caswell
Carolyn Null
Rehta Foster
Betty Randall
Lisa Williamson
Margaret Blankenship
Penny Mazonna

ROLL CALL (continued)

EXCUSED

STANDING COMMITTEES

Constitution and By-Laws Chair Sue Diaz
Legislative Chair Sue Waldhaus
Past Presidents' Parley Chair Sue Waldhaus
Public Relations Chair Sue Waldhaus

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Sue Diaz
Sharon Cherrette
Sue Waldhaus
Linda Schmitt

ABSENT

STANDING COMMITTEES

Audit Chair Jennifer Roalsen

UNITS

Lynn Canal Unit 12
Sitka Unit 13
Nome Unit 19
Gladys M Heintz Memorial Unit 27
Con Miller Unit 30
Chappie James Unit 34
Peter Heyano Unit 442

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Ruth Brown	Betty Bumala	Laverne Kearns
Sue Cherrier	Evelyn Oliver	June Haas
Lori FitzSimmons	Betty Porter	Eva Aulston
Jean Clayton	Judy Pusti	Etta Singleton
Wilma Stokes	Jean Shandy	Jill Pawson
Francisca Guilford	Lynn Bash	Beverly Eads

WELCOME

President Barbe Wolkoff welcomed everyone to the Convention. She expressed her desire for a successful convention meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Lisa Williamson, Distinguished Guests (Unit 57) introduced the American Legion Auxiliary National President Diane Duscheck. She noted that the National President envisions that we are planting seeds for now and in the future. National President Diane Duscheck stated she was happy to visit and that it was her first time to Alaska. She was excited to hear that so many units were represented at this meeting and welcomed everyone.

READING OF CONVENTION RULES

The Convention Rules were read by 1st Vice President Debbie Lowndes (Unit 33).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Oratorical Committee – At this time Jan Scott (Unit 11) gave her report for the Oratorical Committee. She noted that the Oratorical Contest is a great way to bring the entire American Legion Family together as there are volunteers from the American Legion, the Sons of the American Legion, the American Legion Riders and the American Legion Auxiliary. This year's contest was held at Central Middle School.

Awards in the morning session were:

Thomas Warren (Delta Junction).....\$500.00
Chris Brown (Ketchikan).....\$500.00
Ronald Graves (Delta Junction).....\$500.00
Jada Daniels (Anchorage).....\$500.00

These contestants advanced to the next level and awards were as follows:

Joan Kim (Anchorage).....\$750.00
Mackenzie O'Connor (Fairbanks)\$750.00
David Startz (Anchorage).....\$1,000.00
Sarah Chin (Anchorage)\$1,500.00

Sarah Chin went to the Indianapolis to compete in the American Legion Auxiliary High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest. While she did not advance to the next level, she did receive an additional \$1,500 for her participation. She was recognized at the Awards Banquet.

The final results were:

Third in Nation: Department of California
Second in Nation: Department of Minnesota
First in Nation: Department of Kentucky

Jan gave a personal thank you to Sue Caswell for all that she has done. Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) noted that one of the contestants had Cerebral Palsy and utilized a wheelchair. Her classmate and teacher carried her up and down the stairs about 5 times for the various times needed. She brought this up to point out that even with a disability, young people can still participate. Having the support of your family and friends is a great asset.

RECESS

The Convention recess at 11:52 to attend the Americanism Lunch.

RECONVENE

The Convention reconvened at 1:32 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

Financial Report – Debbie Lowndes (Unit 33) distributed her financial report and gave a verbal report. The report included statements received as of 02/28/18 and matches what the Department Treasurer has recorded. The Financial Report has been reconciled. The budget will be reviewed later in the convention. There are two financial resolutions which have been forwarded to the Resolution Committee. It is noted that membership is the bulk of our incoming funds and Debbie encouraged working on membership this year and having an increase in members.

Audit Committee – There is no Audit chairman and there is no report from this committee.

Children and Youth – Barbara Hommel (Unit 6) thanked all of the units who turned in reports to her. She received 14 reports.

She reported the following:

Children served	777
Members involved	1,700
Hours involved.....	1,667
Money spent.....	\$28,628.62

Because she did not receive reports from all units, she is sure that these numbers should be higher.

Chaplain’s Report – Marge Blankenship (Unit 33) noted she still needs reports and will take them up until Saturday. She is distributing a card for Pat Francois (Unit 35) whose mother passed away. She reported that prayers are said in many different meetings or activities. Chaplains visit members in the hospital, officiate at end of life activities, provide spiritual guidance and assist in the upkeep of military graves. Over \$2,000 was spent to purchase cards, flowers, meal cards and other items needed.

Alaska Girls State – Von Lamm (Unit 33) reported that she is receiving applications for this year’s Alaska Girls’ State. Applications are available online. She noted that the tuition for this year is \$300 and an increase to \$400 is expected for next year (2019). This was approved by the Alaska Girls State Board and will be ratified at this Department Convention. This is due to having to change the venue for Alaska Girls and Boys State and the additional costs that will be assessed.

MOTION: by Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) and seconded by Ann Robinson (Unit 33) to raise the tuition for Alaska Girls’ State to \$400 beginning with the 2019 session.

Carolyn Null (Unit 28) asked about why it was such a large increase and asked how people felt about that. Michele Giddings (Unit 11) asked how many girls attended last year. Von explained that there were 27 girls in attendance last year. Tuition is paid by Units, Posts, or sponsors. The total cost of the program including insurance, housing food and transportation was \$13,663. Because we are changing venues next year we anticipate an increase in rental costs. In addition, so far, every possible venue has indicated that they will require us to use their staff to provide foods (which is expensive). This increase will not be in effect until the 2019 Alaska Girls State.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Von explained that applications are received for girls from areas where there are no units (such as Juneau) or several applications are received from a single unit (Ketchikan currently has 9 applicants and feels all should be able to attend). Last year airfare was paid to allow the girls to attend Alaska Girls State.

Von requested that Units get applications out to schools early for next year and that interviews be held by late February. She stated that it is taking an average of three weeks for the girls to complete their applications. There are still some applications in process for this year. Purchasing the tickets this close to Alaska Girls State costs more than if it is done in February or early March. Having applications and interviews completed in February/early March will help to reduce costs.

At this time the following donations were received for Girls' State:

Unit 1 -- \$1,000
Unit 57 -- \$1,000
Unit 33 -- \$2,000

Marge encouraged people to volunteer and be a part of this event. In addition, people can come visit and attend the Appreciation Dinner or the Talent Show. That way they can learn a little more about the program and be able to tell others about it when introducing the program and getting applications. It was reported that during the Girls' State program, participants enact their own legislative process. This includes introducing bills and having them acted upon. There have been bills approved at Alaska Girls State that have gone to the Alaska Legislature and have been approved.

A suggestion was made to use companion fares, however one of the travelers has to be an adult (18 or older).

Junior Activity Report – The Junior Activity Report submitted by Carrie Doores (Unit 15) was read at this time. She had seven units reporting. Carrie gave “high fives” to Unit 57 and Unit 6 who have done an outstanding job this year.

Members involved65
Hours involved.....170.5
Money spent.....\$40.00
Money raised.....\$326.50

Americanism Report – Barb Nath (Unit 20) gave her report noting that she is still missing reports from Units. She reported there were two submissions to the Senior Essay Contest. A variety of activities were reported such as the Pledge of Allegiance, activities surrounding the American Flag, celebrating holidays, assisting families, and commemorating 911.

Members involved1,005
Hours involved.....3,492.4
Money spent.....\$12,837.35

LEGION CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

At this time Laura Edwards came to speak to the American Legion Auxiliary. She works with media communication at the Legion National Headquarters. She came to share information about the Legion Centennial Celebration.

This celebration will be a Legion Family effort. Posts are being required to find the history of their Post. There are materials and tool kits available at the Post to help with preparing for the anniversary and finding history. A suggestion was made to talk with longer term members to find out what they can share about the history. There is a web site (www.legion.org/centennial) where each posts can start their own history page with photos and timelines. Everyone is encouraged to share their story. The chair of the National Observance Committee has said that the heartbeat of the Legion is strongest at the local level. They have the most day-to-day impact on the community. This will continue through the 2019 National Convent and continue until Veteran’s Day 2019.

Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) reminded those present that right after the American Legion’s 100th anniversary will be the American Legion Auxiliary 100th anniversary. It is time to start thinking about that and to appoint a committee to begin work on it.

RECESS

The Convention recessed at 2:25 p.m.

RECONVENE

The Convention reconvened at 2:42 p.m.

Von announced three fundraiser for Alaska Girls State. They are selling Christmas ornaments which includes a poppy, and a thank you and honors our veterans. They are \$5 for the small ornaments and \$8 for the larger ornaments. In addition, there is a “Guess the Jelly Bean” container. For one dollar, you can make a guess on the number of jelly beans in the container and the winner will receive the jelly beans. Finally, they are selling aprons for \$10 each.

Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) stated that the National President's special project is the ALA Foundation. It is a 501(c)(3) and can be utilized to help departments and units to apply for grants or other fundraising possibilities which require a 501(c)(3). The ALA Foundation provides needed items such as laptops.

Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) also reported that Unit 57 had a paint party which focused on the American Flag. The winner has donated their painting to do an outcry auction. All proceeds will go to the ALA Foundation. The auction was held and the picture was purchased for \$40 by Amy Bell (Unit 1).

Constitution and By-Laws Report – Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) was filling in for Sue Diaz the Department Chair who is excused from this meeting. There are two resolutions regarding the Constitution and By-Laws that have been circulated for consideration. In addition, there is an amendment to the By-Laws that was presented. This amendment had to do with Education and Scholarships. The resolutions and the amendments were read on the floor

Sharon Dillon (Unit 5) read the amendment to the By-Laws Standing Rules, Section 6 Education Committee.

NOW READS:

Section 6 Education Committee: The Chairman will select 3 individuals to judge Department level scholarships or those that will represent the Department for any National level scholarship.

WILL READ:

Section 6 Education Committee: The Chairman will select three individuals from three different Units to judge Department level scholarships or those that will represent the Department for any National level scholarships. No individual whose Unit is sponsoring a scholarship application may be one of the judges. If the Chairman's Unit is sponsoring one of the scholarships to be judged, the Chairman must recuse herself from the judging process and send all scholarship applications in her possession to the Department Secretary who will put together a three-member panel, one member from three different Units; for the purpose of judging the scholarships. All judges must be current members in good standing of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Alaska.

Clarification was given that if the Chairman has to recuse herself, it will mean a new committee is appointed. The Department Secretary would be the Chair and she would appoint two members not from units with applications to serve on that committee.

Von read Resolution 2018-1 changing the Annual Honorary Junior Auxiliary meeting to the Fall Workshop effective in 2019.

Lisa read Resolution 2018-2 allowing elected Junior Officers to retain their positions until the Fall workshop in 2019 (providing Resolution 2018-1 is passed)

Lisa stated she reviewed the Constitution and By-Laws and there is no place that states when the Junior meeting should be held other than “at a department meeting”. They do not say it must be held at the Department Convention. There would be a change to the Junior Standing Rules.

The following comments were made:

- School is in session in October as well as April.
- The Fall meeting is held on a weekend.
- If it is necessary to pull girls out of school, it is easier to do in October than at the end of the school year (finals, etc.).
- Alaska tends to go to the Vegas Mission Training/Junior Meeting because it is closer and saves on expenses. However, there are six different opportunities for this.
- A Junior who wants to compete for a National offices must have attended a Junior Meeting.
- National is finding out that more juniors can attend and it works better to have it in the fall.
- We should still plan to have the Juniors attend the Department Convention if possible. The possibility of a mid-year meeting was suggested to give them more opportunity to get together.

National Executive Committee Report – Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) is grateful that the Auxiliary saw merit and supported her continuation in this position. Lisa announced that she has been requested to fill an appointment as National Education Chairman. This appointment will begin after the National Convention in Minneapolis. Her chairmanship is effective on or about September 1st. She will resign the NEC position once it is active and then Penny Mazonna will become the NEC and the sitting president will become the alternate NEC.

She reported there was a NEC meeting during which all appointments were ratified. There was also a lot of discussion on the discontinuation of the Washington D.C. Conference. It is possible that this will be reinstated and it will probably come up at the National Convention. Since the NEC meetings were in Indianapolis, Lisa had the opportunity to go to Washington, D.C. to “storm the hill” with others. The NEC has approved a resolution regarding printing of online membership cards. The cards that Units can print will be just as valid as other membership cards. Lisa stated that there would be a new guide coming out specific to Girls’ State. It was noted that Units do not have to go through their Department to start utilizing ALAIMS.

The Auxiliary 100th Anniversary is coming up soon. Linda Newsome is the National Committee Chair. It will be necessary for Alaska to appoint a committee chair and committee members.

There are four classes now available on the ALA Academy. Please do not use google. You can use Firefox. All members should take advantage of these classes to learn more about the American Legion Auxiliary.

Our National Treasurer will be retiring this summer some time. Sara Regal is the compliance officer and will take over once Marta retires. The National Headquarters building officially belongs to the American Legion Auxiliary. It used to be a sorority and they have until the end of May to vacate. It will not be used as our headquarters until after National Convention.

National Security Report – Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) found out that a third of the units reported “no activity.” She thanked the units who reported on time and gave each of them a certificate (Units 3, 5, 11, 15, 16, 20, 28, 33, 34, 35, and 57). It is important to know that National Security is for active duty members and their families. VA&R is for veterans and their families. Our mission is supporting veterans, active duty military and their families.

Past Presidents Parley – Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28) reminded everyone that the PPP Luncheon is on Saturday at noon at China Lights (south of Dimond). While the cost was announced at \$20, the suggestion was made to have each member pay their own. There are a number of options (such as senior discount) which could bring the price down. The meal comes with hot tea and any other beverages would carry a cost. Members planning to attend should sign up with Sue today. Also, don’t forget to turn in your entries for both Unit Member of the Year and for Servicewoman of the Year. Sue will find Past Department Presidents to help with the judging. She will check into transportation for the luncheon.

The Past Presidents Parley report is two parts. Sue was amazed at what is involved for this to happen. Sue asked units to make it a focus to look at the true meaning of the Past Presidents Parley. She noted that it also supports nursing scholarships. She had reports from 4 units. She noted that Past Department Presidents and past Unit Presidents serve a major role as mentors and in providing training.

Members involved65
Hours involved.....2,000

Public Relations – Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28) stated that every project done is a public relations possibility as well as whenever you speak at different meetings. Members should project the American Legion Auxiliary whenever they can. Outreach included newspaper articles, Facebook, public service announcement, phone trees, welcoming home the Honor Flight, attending different activities and utilizing Post newsletters, as well as letters, emails and postcard to reach members and potential members.

Members involved none reported
Hours involved.....1,224
Money spent..... none reported

Reports received did not reflect the reporting data needed. It is hoped that more units will report prior to the deadline for submission to National.

Legislative – Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28) stated that 11 units provided year-end reports. Members attended town meetings and wrote to officials. Veterans’ and senior issues were some of the areas addressed. Many members voted in elections and supported “Get out the vote”. It was recommended to get involved with legislation on the state level. A list exists that shows each legislator and how to contact them.

Members involvedabout 100
Hours involved.....662
Money spent..... none reported

Electronic Media is a great way to get information out. She thanked Lisa for her dedication to getting information to us. She does a wonderful job.

Education and Scholarships – Darlene Sheldon (Unit 16) thanked everyone who sent in their reports. Scholarship information was distributed to colleges, Posts, high schools, flex school and community connections. Seven applications were submitted for the National President’s Scholarship. Three applications for the Children of Warriors National President’s Scholarship. One of those applications was incomplete and was not judged. However, of the two judged, the winner was sent on to National for consideration. No applications for the Merrilyn Stock/Evelyn Oliver Memorial Scholarship were received prior to Department Convention.

Members involved23
Hours involved.....605
Money spent.....\$24,116

Leadership – Sue Caswell (Unit 33) distributed information sheets to everyone present. She asked that they be completed and returned to her before the end of the day. She asked members to please note if they have done the ALA Leadership course. She also encouraged units to provide both a narrative and a statistical report. From the reports received, units have provided training on leadership activities and performing financial audits among others activities. Members were encouraged to take the ALA Academy Courses.

Members involved86
Hours involved..... none reported
Money spent.....\$5,024
Money raised.....\$1,000+

Anchorage (Domiciliary) Gift Shop – Ann Foley (Unit 1) gave Peggy Bateman’s report. The Gift Shop was held on December 2, 2017. There were 72 veterans in attendance. Channel 2 and Channel 11 came to do a media report.

Members involved34
Hours involved.....102
Money raised/donations\$10,125

RECESS

The meeting was recessed 4:13 p.m.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 4:19 p.m.

It was brought up that we raise money for both Alaska Girls State and Alaska Boys State. Alaska Girls State receives a donation of \$1,000 from the American Legion. It is only fair to raise funds for both programs.

Poppy – Lori Fruhwirth (Unit 11) reported there were over 6,500 poppies ordered for the year from 12 units. One unit chose to make their poppies (another 4,000). The total for the year was 10,500 poppies for distribution. The month of May is the focus for poppies. In the last year poppies were distributed at 4th of July activities, a film festival, member appreciation dinners, and Veteran’s Day. Two units has a Poppy Girl this year. Lori stated she had received an email from the Department of Oregon indicating that they had poppies available all year round. National Poppy Day is May 25, 2018.

Members involved106
Hours involved.....1,233
Money spent.....\$3,567

Fairbanks Christmas Project – April Sinclair (Unit 57) introduced Margaret Clausen-Grim who was the chair for this event. She noted that Margaret did a great job. There were 100 bags made with a variety of items in them such as socks, lotion, blankets, coloring books/pencils, crossword puzzles, word search books, etc. All bags had a snowflake ornament and cards signed by Junior Auxiliary members. Bags were distributed to the Army Hospital, the Denali Center, the Pioneer Home and the Senior Center

Members involved none reported
Hours involved.....350
Money spent.....\$866.72

Anchorage Christmas Project – Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28) noted that the Fairbanks and Anchorage Christmas Projects used to be called the Anchorage and Fairbanks Gift bags. It was changed last year. This year the budget for Anchorage was \$750. Approximately \$350 to \$400 was spent. Bags were delivered to the Anchorage Pioneer Home, the Domiciliary, Fisher House and the Palmer Pioneer Home. In addition, baby bundles were delivered to maternity wards. Christmas bags each included an ornament (five different designs) and tissues.

There were volunteers from the American Legion Auxiliary as well as from the Sons of the American Legion and the Honorary Junior Auxiliary. They appeared to be well received with a comment made that they could be hung on a lamp or in a window and kept out all year. Many of those helping heard this comment. It took more than three days to deliver due to scheduling requirements.

Members involved7
Hours involved.....1,233
Money spent.....\$300 - \$400

A question was asked about the contents of the bag stating it believed there was supposed to have more than one item in the bag. Members were informed that there can no longer be food items in the bags due to dietary restrictions. While there was only an ornament in the bag, those who received the ornament really liked them. Ann Robinson (Unit 33) volunteers for the VA. She was thanked for bringing the ornaments for the patients. A statement was made that it was so kind and thoughtful to not give them something they couldn't use.

Marge Blankenship read a flyer on the military child. She asked if units were doing the Military Child Table. Some responded that they had. Marge noted that dandelions have been added to the ceremony.

RECESS

The Convention recessed at 4:38 p.m. until Friday at 9:00 a.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 9:12 a.m.

A prayer was offered by Department Chaplain Marge Blankenship

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by ALA Honorary Department of Alaska Junior Historian Renee Doyle.

Those that received awards at the Awards Banquet last night were congratulated.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

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ROLL CALL (continued)

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Sharon Cherrette
Linda Schmitt

ROLL CALL (continued)

ABSENT

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- Lynn Canal Unit 12
- Sitka Unit 13
- Ninilchik Unit 18
- Nome Unit 19
- Gladys M Heintz Memorial Unit 27
- Con Miller Unit 30
- Chappie James Unit 34
- Peter Heyano Unit 442

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Sue Cherrier	Evelyn Oliver	June Haas
Betty Porter	Eva Aulston	Jean Clayton
Judy Pusti	Etta Singleton	Wilma Stokes
Jean Shandy	Jill Pawson	Francisca Guilford
Lynn Bash	Beverly Eads	

The winner of the AEF split the pot raffle was announced as Michele Giddings from Unit 11. She received \$395. Of the remaining half raised, half will go to the National AEF and half will go to the Department of Alaska AEF.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Zona received reports from 15 of 22 units. Money was donated to the Department of Alaska Auxiliary Emergency Fund as well as the National AEF. An application was received this year for use of the fund. It was approved by National and forwarded to our Department AEF who also approved the application. Zona noted that if a unit wishes to donate to another unit, the approval should be sent to the Department President and she will forward a check to the unit. If it is out of Alaska, this allows for Alaska to get credit for the donation instead of the out-of-state department.

It was noted that if someone donates \$50 through the Auxiliary or online to National, the donor will receive a gold pin. The Unit Treasurer should inform the Department Chairman so she can be sure a pin is ordered. Donations to AEF can be done through the end of May.

Members involved	101
Hours involved.....	541.5
Money spent.....	\$7,902.50
Money raised.....	\$2,616.00

Members were reminded that if someone is speaking, members cannot leave the room. They need to wait until the speaker has finished.

Membership – Jane Larson (Unit 35) received reports from five units. The activities reported included

- Sending out membership recognition certificates and continuous year pins
- Reminder notices for members to renew
- Various community events to renew membership and to recruit new members.

VA&R – Debbie Lowndes (Unit 33) received reports from 13 of 22 units. She gave examples of how to donate to this area. One is through Fisher House (a place where military affiliated families can stay in Anchorage. The other is utilizing Amazon Smile and choosing the American Legion Auxiliary as a recipient. She noted there are two units who go to Fisher House on a monthly basis and serve dinner to 15-25 people. There is an Annex about to be opened, which will increase the number of people utilizing the Fisher House. Another way is to donate products such a paper products, water and other items needed. Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) stated that they like to receive the little bottles of shampoo, conditions, lotions etc. such as distributed through hotels. When a family stays at Fisher House, they are provided whatever they need while staying there. In addition, aluminum can tabs were donated to the VA Center. One of our units was told that every pound of aluminum can pop tabs is equal to one night of lodging at Fisher House or Ronald McDonald House. Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) noted that Kenai is able to utilize the aluminum can pop tabs for dialysis.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

At this time, the following distinguished guests arrived and spoke to the American Legion Auxiliary: American Legion National Commander Denise Rohan, American Legion Auxiliary National President Diane Duscheck, SAL National Commander Danny Smith, and Candidate for National Commander Bill Oxford.

American Legion National Commander Denise Rohan introduced her husband, Mike Rohan who is traveling with her. She is the first female National Commander and the first lifetime female member to serve that role. She spoke to the color purple for the Legion Family noting it is a combination of all the colors. She shared her story and talked about how we can support families.

American Legion Auxiliary National President Diane Duscheck recognized the Department President and the National Executive Committeewomen. She informed those present that Marge Blankenship has been selected for the National Americanism Committee. She shared a quote she likes: “A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in.” She then shared that her project is the ALA Foundation. It is 10 years old and donations are invested. Grants are awarded through the interest earned. She encourage us to:

- Be a servant leader
- Ask what someone needs
- Listen to what people say
- Think about your response before you respond
- Build up/add value to other people
- Be kind to one another
- Praise others in public and make corrections in private
- Monitor ourselves/make ourselves better persons
- Expand your reach to others – be an example to others

Her word is PLANT and she stated, “Judge by what you plant, but not by what you harvest.”

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska presented her with a check to the ALA Foundation in her name in the amount of \$200. She was also given a small gift which was a girl in a canoe with a husky at the front. It was hand sewn by an Alaskan artist and was placed on a hanger for display.

SAL National Commander Danny Smith said hello to all. He introduced his wife, Donna who is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. He noted that he didn’t always get to address the American Legion Auxiliary and enjoyed being able to do so. He expressed his appreciation of members’ dedication to the words in the preamble – “To participate in and contribute to the accomplishments of the American Legion.” The American Legion Auxiliary helps the American Legion as well as creating and adopting their own programs. Based on the smiles generated by the people helped, it is a success. He stated that while change is scary, we should never change our mission, but should not be afraid to change our approach to fulfill that mission.

Candidate for National Commander Bill Oxford from Northern Caroline thanked his wife for her support. He noted that we are in the midst of celebrating the American Legion 100th year anniversary. There were goals set and they are being reached as a result of the Legion Family.

RECESS

The Convention recessed at 10:18 a.m.

RECONVENE

The Convention reconvened at 10:33 a.m.

History– Colleen Newman (Unit 35) wanted to be sure members were aware that when other committee reports are submitted, a copy should be sent to the Department Historian. She uses those committee reports to make her report to National. The statement “today’s youth are tomorrow’s leaders” is very true. This becomes apparent when you look at the participants in the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Program and where they are today. While Colleen received information from units, she does not always get statistical information for the year such as members and hours involved, and money spent or earned.

FIRST READING OF NOMINATIONS

Endorsement letters were read for the following

- Debbie Lowndes, President (Unit 33)
 - Jane Larson, 1st Vice-President (Unit 35)
 - Yvonne Lamm, 2nd Vice-President (Unit 33)
 - Barbara Nath, Secretary (Unit 20)
 - Diane Estrada, Treasurer (Unit 35)
 - Colleen Newman, Historian (Unit 35)
 - Margaret (Marge) Blankenship, Chaplain (Unit 33)
 - Lori Fruhwirth, Sgt.-at-Arms (Unit 11)
- Three Intent to Run forms were received for the Executive Committee: – April Sinclair (Unit 57), Kathy Moore (Unit 29), and Ann Foley (Unit 1).

Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) asked if the Secretary and Treasurer positions required a vote since they are elected. The response was that they would be part of the voting.

The question was raised as to whether or not the Historian position could be held for more than one year.

It was asked if an exception could be made to the rule for the length of time a position can be held. An exception can be made for one year only.

MOTION: by Ann Robinson (Unit 33) to make an exception to the rule.

This position is listed in the Constitution and Bylaws as not being able to serve more than two years. Marge Blankenship reminded members of a discussion held a couple of years ago regarding the Chaplain and the Historian. It was determined that the Chaplain would be removed from that requirement, but the Historian would retain that requirement.

Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) reported that the Historian was left with the requirement because it is supposed to be a line office. It used to be that the Historian moved up to the office of 2nd Vice-President.

RESCINDED

MOTION Ann Robinson (Unit 33) rescinded her motion

Any nominations to be made from the floor will be done during Saturday's meeting.

Members were asked to return as soon as the revitalization presentation was finished. This will allow us to get more committee reports done prior to the presentation regarding Traumatic Brain Injuries.

RECESS

The Convention recessed at 11:10 a.m. to attend Post Everlasting, the Children and Youth Luncheon and the Revitalization Presentation.

RECONVENE

The Convention reconvened at 3:26 p.m.

An Endorsement Letter from Unit 1 was read for Ann Foley for the office of Executive Committeewoman for 2018-2019.

Chaplains Report – Marge Blankenship (Unit 33) received reports from 18 of 22 units. She shared with those present the types of activities in which the Chaplain is involved. These include prayers at various functions, sending out cards to members, officiating at various ceremonies, visiting sick or hospitalized members and cleaning military graves and laying wreaths.

Members involved not reported
Hours involved..... not reported
Money spent.....\$2,000.00+

POSTER/BOOK CONTESTS

Poppy Book – There were no Poppy Book entries.

Poppy Poster – The submitted poppy posters were judged. Winners were announced as follows:

1st Place – Peters Creek Unit 33
2nd Place – Susitna Valley Unit 35
3rd Place – Seward Unit 5
4th Place – Spenard Unit 28

History Book – The submitted History Books were judged. The first place winner will receive a check in the amount of \$25. Winners were announced as follows:

1st Place – Jack Henry Unit 1
2nd Place – Peters Creek Unit 33
3rd Place – Susitna Valley Unit 35
4th place – Spenard Unit 28

Unit Scrapbook – The submitted Unit Scrapbooks were judged. The first place winner will receive a check in the amount of \$25. Winners were announced as follows:

1st place – Merlin Elmer Palmer, Unit 6

2nd place – Robert G Blair, Unit 17

3rd place – tie Susitna Valley Unit 35 and C Russell Huber Unit 57

Chaplains Book – There was only one Chaplain's Book submitted. While the unit did not follow the directions completely, they were awarded first place. The first place winner will receive a check in the amount of \$25.

1st place – Peters Creek Unit 33

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI) PRESENTATION

Patty Raymond Turner is the Regional Education Coordinator for the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVRIC). She gave a presentation on TBI Awareness and Resources for Veterans and Families. She noted that a vast majority of TBIs fall in the category of mild (concussion). Resources are available to all service members. She made available a number of handouts regarding this topic.

RECESS

The Convention recessed at 4:16 p.m. until Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

RECONVENE

The Convention was called to order at 9:11 a.m.

The Invocation by Chaplain Marge Blankenship.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by 2nd Vice-President Jane Larson.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

OFFICERS

President Barbe Wolkoff
1st Vice-President Debbie Lowndes
2nd Vice-President Jane Larson
Secretary Barbara Nath
Treasurer Diana Estrada
Sgt.-at-Arms Zona Gregg
Chaplain Marge Blankenship
Historian Colleen Newman
Executive Committeewoman Lori Fruhwirth

STANDING COMMITTEES

Americanism Chair Barbara Nath
Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman Zona Gregg
History Chair Colleen Newman
Children and Youth Chair Barbara Hummel
Community Service Chair Penny Mazonna
Distinguished Guests Chair Lisa Williamson
Education and Scholarship Chair Darlene Sheldon
Finance Chair Debbie Lowndes
Girls State Chair Yvonne Lamm
Leadership Chair Sue Caswell
Legislative Chair Sue Waldhaus
Membership Chair Jane Larson
National Security Chair Lisa Williamson
Past Presidents Parley Chair Sue Waldhaus
Poppy Chair Lori Fruhwirth
Public Relations Chair Sue Waldhaus
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Chair Debbie Lowndes

ROLL CALL (continued)

PRESENT

UNITS

Jack Henry Unit 1
Joseph P. Craig Unit 3
Seward Unit 5
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11
General Buckner Unit 16
Robert G. Blair Unit 17
Ninilchik Unit 18
George H. Plumley Unit 20
Spenard Unit 28
Muldoon Unit 29
Peters Creek Unit 33
Chappie James Unit 34
Susitna Valley Unit 35
C. Russell Huber Unit 57

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Lori FitzSimons
Lavonne Collier
Susan Caswell
Carolyn Null
Rehta Foster
Betty Randall
Lisa Williamson
Margaret Blankenship
Penny Mazonna
Sue Waldhaus

EXCUSED

STANDING COMMITTEES

Constitution and By-Laws Chair Sue Diaz

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Sue Diaz
Sharon Cherrette
Linda Schmitt

ROLL CALL (continued)

ABSENT

OFFICERS

Executive Committeewoman Carrie Doores

STANDING COMMITTEES

Audit Chair Jennifer Roalsen

Junior Activities Chair Carrie Doores

UNITS

Lynn Canal Unit 12

Sitka Unit 13

Matanuska Valley Unit 15

Nome Unit 19

Gladys M Heintz Memorial Unit 27

Con Miller Unit 30

Peter Heyano Unit 442

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Ruth Brown

Betty Bumala

Laverne Kearns

Sue Cherrier

Evelyn Oliver

June Haas

Lori FitzSimmons

Betty Porter

Eva Aulston

Jean Clayton

Judy Pusti

Etta Singleton

Wilma Stokes

Jean Shandy

Jill Pawson

Francisca Guilford

Lynn Bash

Beverly Eads

Ann Robinson (Unit 33) showed an apron she has received. Each piece of material in the apron was something from a military personnel. It was made for her because she helped their families. It is important to them that their families are taken care of.

Ann was thanked for being at the VA almost every day as a volunteer. She was also thanked for taking over the Junior Activities for this Convention.

Past Committee Chairmen were encouraged to share information with the new Committee Chairmen. They should be provided information from the old Committee Chairmen so that they know what they are doing as well as what has been done in the past.

Community Service – Penny Mazonna (Unit 33) stated she is at 100% reporting as of yesterday. However, seven of those units had “no report”. She reported that members are proud to wear ALA branded clothing. It stirs up interest in the community and results in questions about the American Legion Auxiliary. Three of the suggested days of service showed community service. These were 9/11 National Day of Service, Veterans Day and Martin Luther King Day. Youth were involved in these days of service to include clean-up projects, distributing food, various Veteran’s Day activities and preparing veterans graves with flags and poppies. One Unit adopted a local veteran and provided him with clothing, food and transportation to events. Other activities included Thanksgiving and Christmas Day baskets, holiday parties, open houses, community meals and picnics, parades, and sponsoring a fundraiser for the local police department for a Homeless Warming Shelter.

Members involved140
Hours involved.....3,363
Money donated.....\$21,236.60

RESOLUTIONS

Chairman Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and her committee (Jackie Norvell, Unit 16 and Kathy Moore, Unit 29) read the resolutions.

Resolution 2018-1 changing the meeting time for the Honorary Junior Auxiliary meeting was read. The Resolutions Committee recommended approval of this resolution.

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded by Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28) to approve Resolution 2018-1.

Members expressed their opinion regarding the potential change. Most did not think this would be a good change. It is believed it came up because of the location of last year’s Convention (Haines) and the fact that there were not many Juniors in attendance. While it was done at last year’s Fall Workshop, things were not the same as if it had been at the Department Convention. We are a family and we want all our members to be present for the Convention.

It was noted that having all members of our Legion Family installed at the same time makes it a very special installation. It is important for Juniors to be a part of Convention. They are a part of the American Legion Auxiliary (there are Senior Members and Junior Members). We want to be sure that they don’t feel isolated or that they are not a part of the group.

The motion failed by unanimous voice vote.
The Resolution is **DEFEATED**.

Resolution 2018-2 to allow Junior Officers to retain their office until the Fall Workshop in 2019 was read. The Resolutions Committee declined this resolution. It was read for information only.

The Resolution was DECLINED by the Resolutions Committee.

Resolution 2018-3 (Finance) raising the amount for Senior American Legion Auxiliary Member dues was read. The Resolution Committee approves this resolution.

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded by Colleen Newman (Unit 35) to approve Resolution 2018-3 (Finance).

Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) pointed out that we had just raised our dues for Seniors and that National hasn't approved to do a raise. It was clarified that \$9 is sent to Department and \$12 is sent to National each year. The suggested increase would be for the 2020 membership year.

A voice vote was taken. It was too close to call so a standing vote was taken: There were 14 standing in agreement with the increase and 21 standing in opposition of an increase.

The motion was defeated by a standing vote (14 approve and 21 against).
The Resolution is **DEFEATED**.

Resolution 2018-4 (Finance) raising the amount for the Junior Auxiliary Member dues was read. The Resolution Committee approves this resolution

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded by Colleen Newman (Unit 35) to approve Resolution 2018-4 (Finance).

This increase was approved at last year's National Convention. This increase would recoup the additional amount sent to National by Department. It was noted that Junior dues have not been raised in many years.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
The Resolution is **APPROVED**.

Resolution 2018-7 setting the Fall Workshop dates for the 3rd weekend in October was read. The Resolution Committee does not approve this resolution. It is read for information only.

The Resolution is DECLINED by the Resolution Committee.

It was noted there would be more resolutions later in the day (courtesy resolutions).

NEC Lisa Williamson thanked Alternate NEC Penny Mazonna for stepping in and being a great tour guide for our National Dignitaries and for being a true friend to the American Legion Auxiliary.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENT

Having been read yesterday, the amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws was ready for a vote. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee approves this amendment.

NOW READS:

Section 6 Education Committee: The Chairman will select 3 individuals to judge Department level scholarships or those that will represent the Department for any National level scholarship.

WILL READ:

Section 6 Education Committee: The Chairman will select three individuals from three different Units to judge Department level scholarships or those that will represent the Department for any National level scholarships. No individual whose Unit is sponsoring a scholarship application may be one of the judges. If the Chairman’s Unit is sponsoring one of the scholarships to be judged, the Chairman must recuse herself from the judging process and send all scholarship applications in her possession to the Department Secretary who will put together a three-member panel, one member from three different Units; for the purpose of judging the scholarships. All judges must be current members in good standing of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Alaska.

MOTION: by Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) and Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) to approve the amendment to the Constitutions and Bylaws as stated above.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

RECESS

The Convention recessed at 10:32 a.m.

RECONVENE

The Convention reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

At this time, checks were received from Units for the Children and Youth and for Americanism

Children and Youth Check	\$1,954.49
Americanism	\$201.00

BUDGET

It was noted that when preparing the budget for the year, Debbie looked at what was actually spent in the last year and what is anticipated for the current year in membership receipts. Last year’s income was \$73,600 with a total of \$74,868 being spent. The estimated income for 2018-2019 is \$74,700.

MOTION: by Debbie Lowndes (Unit 33) and seconded by Yvonne Lamm (Unit 33) to approve the 2018-2019 budget as presented.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Darlene Sheldon (Unit 15) announced the winners.

National Presidents Children of Warrior Scholarship. Three applications were received. One was incomplete, so it was not judged. The two complete applications were for Anastacia Dorvall and Robert McGinnis. The individual forwarded to National from the Department of Alaska was Anastacia Dorvell. It was noted that the application forwarded to National for consideration automatically receives a \$1,000 Aggie Parks Scholarship. Due to a misunderstanding of the scholarship process (which resulted in the amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws), a motion was approved by the Department Executive Committee to allow two \$1,000 scholarships; one for each of the completed applications and only for this year.

Two applications were received for the Merrilyn Stock/Evelyn Oliver Scholarship. Although this scholarship was two separate scholarships at one time, they were combined into one scholarship at last year's Department Convention. As a result, there may be one scholarship for a part-time student and one scholarship for a full-time student. Two scholarship applications were received, both of which were for full-time students. One application was for Jhalen Williamson (through C. Russell Huber Unit 57) and one was for Celestina Cruz (through Robert G. Blair Unit 17). One scholarship was approved for a full-time student and no scholarships were approved for the part-time scholarship. The winner for the full-time scholarship was Celestina Cruz from Kodiak.

Secretary Report – Barbara Nath reported that it had been a year of intense learning. The learning curve was not only steep, at times it was straight up. However with the support of members and the mentorship of our past Department Secretary Linda Schmitt, it has been a successful year. Barb expressed her undying gratitude to Linda for all the support she has provided and her willingness to be available for assistance.

Treasurer's Report – Diana Estrada noted that we need to increase our membership. We are currently about 264 members behind our goal. Be sure to get in all membership applications and renewals. Diane noted she is also still in the learning curve. She was extremely grateful for Linda's assistance.

Both the Secretary and Treasurer were thanked for all that they do. Sue Caswell (Unit 33) noted that these two offices were split last year. They are both working for minimum wage. She stated they deserve kudos for the hours they put in which is several hours a week. She suggested considering a raise for these positions as our membership dues received are increased and funds become available.

President's Report – President Barbe Wolkoff highlighted her year as President. Her activities included attending the Department Leadership National Convention in Indianapolis, the National Convention in Reno (where President Trump addressed a joint session), and Mission Training in Las Vegas. While three units had to cancel their anticipated visit by the Department President, she was still able to visit six units throughout the year. A couple of high points of the year included volunteering for the Domiciliary Gift Shop assisting veterans to shop for gifts for their families and attending the Silver Tea at Jack Henry Unit 1.

By the applause of the members, the President's report was accepted.

RESOLUTIONS (continued)

Resolution 2018-5 thanking Spenard Post 28, Unit 28 and Squadron 28 for their work resulting in a successful Convention was read. The Resolution Committee approves this resolution

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded by Yvonne Lamm (Unit 33) to approve Resolution 2018-5.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The Resolution is **APPROVED**.

Resolution 2018-6 thanking President Barbe Wolkoff for her outstanding efforts as Department President was read. The Resolution Committee approves this resolution

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded by Diana Estrada (Unit 35) to approve Resolution 2018-6.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The Resolution is **APPROVED**.

Rehta Foster (Unit 28) thanked her committee members for their work.

RECESS

The Convention recessed at 11:28 p.m. to attend the Past Presidents Parley Luncheon.

RECONVENE

The Convention reconvened at 2:06 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION: By Barbara Nath (Unit 20) and seconded by Sharon Cherrette (Unit 29) to approve combining the separate accounts for the Merrilyn Stock and Evelyn Oliver Scholarships into one account.

It was suggested that the Application Form for this combined scholarship indicate that the applicant needs to reside in the state of Alaska. Money awarded will need to come from the General Fund as Gaming Funds cannot be sent out of the State of Alaska. Also, requirements need to be clarified. It was also noted that there will be one full-time scholarship and one part-time scholarship.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: by Barbara Nath (Unit 20) and seconded by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) to authorize a one-time only grant of two separate \$1,000 Aggie Parks scholarships to those who submitted a completed application for the National Presidents Children of Warriors Scholarship.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: by Diana Estrada (Unit 35) and seconded by Michele Giddings (Unit 11) to authorize the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska to pay for the Past Presidents Parley luncheon for woman veterans and for the National Commander.

The total cost was \$123.91.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

There was no other Old Business to come to the Convention floor.

HONORARY JUNIOR AUXILIARY PRESENTATION

Honorary Junior Auxiliary members introduced themselves. They had an “alternate” bingo game for Senior members to play. It involved information regarding the U.S. Flag.

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY JUNIOR AUXILIARY OFFICES

The following slate of officers was presented:

- President.....Angel Schwertfeger (Unit 5)
- 1st Vice-President Kya Abel (Unit 28)
- 2nd Vice President Shelby Lamm (Unit 33)
- Secretary Makenzi Grim (Unit 57)
- Historian..... Alexis Grim (Unit 57)
- Chaplain Kyrsten Johnson-Gray (Unit 5)
- Sgt.-at-Arms.....Melanie Rodeheaver (Unit 35)
- Crystal Maddox (Unit 5)
- Executive Board Members..... Renee Doyle (Unit 35)
- Madeline Edelin (Unit 20)

MOTION: by Ann Robinson (Unit 33) and seconded by Marge Blankenship (Unit 33) to accept the slate of Honorary Junior Offices as presented.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

HONORARY JUNIOR AUXILIARY OFFICERS INSTALLATION TEAM

The Installation Team for the Honorary Junior Auxiliary officers was presented.

- Installer Robia Bishop (Unit 20)
- Chaplain Marge Blankenship (Unit 33)
- Sgt.-at-Arms..... Kathy Balcolm (Unit 5)

MOTION: by Marge Blankenship (Unit 33) and seconded by Lori Wolfe (Unit 5) to accept the Installation Team.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

RECESS

The Convention recessed at 2:46 p.m. to allow members to assure that they have their membership cards.

RECONVENE

The Convention reconvened at 2:52 p.m. At this time, members were informed that no one would be allowed to leave the room until all voting was completed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Credentials Committee confirmed that each person present had their voting card.

Certification of Delegates – The receipt of the Certification of Delegates was confirmed by Department Secretary Barbara Nath for each unit present.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

OFFICERS

President Barbe Wolkoff
1st Vice-President Debbie Lowndes
2nd Vice-President Jane Larson
Secretary Barbara Nath
Treasurer Diana Estrada
Sgt.-at-Arms Zona Gregg
Chaplain Marge Blankenship
Historian Colleen Newman
Executive Committeewoman Lori Fruhwirth

STANDING COMMITTEES

Americanism Chair Barbara Nath
Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman Zona Gregg
History Chair Colleen Newman
Children and Youth Chair Barbara Hummel
Community Service Chair Penny Mazonna
Distinguished Guests Chair Lisa Williamson
Education and Scholarship Chair Darlene Sheldon
Finance Chair Debbie Lowndes
Girls State Chair Yvonne Lamm
Leadership Chair Sue Caswell
Legislative Chair Sue Waldhaus
Membership Chair Jane Larson
National Security Chair Lisa Williamson
Past Presidents Parley Chair Sue Waldhaus
Poppy Chair Lori Fruhwirth
Public Relations Chair Sue Waldhaus
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Chair Debbie Lowndes

ROLL CALL (continued)

PRESENT

UNITS

Jack Henry Unit 1
Joseph P. Craig Unit 3
Seward Unit 5
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11
General Buckner Unit 16
Robert G. Blair Unit 17
Ninilchik Unit 18
George H. Plumley Unit 20
Spenard Unit 28
Muldoon Unit 29
Peters Creek Unit 33
Chappie James Unit 34
Susitna Valley Unit 35
C. Russell Huber Unit 57

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Lori FitzSimons
Lavonne Collier
Susan Caswell
Carolyn Null
Rehta Foster
Betty Randall
Lisa Williamson
Margaret Blankenship
Penny Mazonna
Sharon Cherrette
Sue Waldhaus

EXCUSED

STANDING COMMITTEES

Constitution and By-Laws Chair Sue Diaz

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Sue Diaz
Linda Schmitt

ROLL CALL (continued)

ABSENT

OFFICERS

Executive Committeewoman Carrie Doores

STANDING COMMITTEES

Audit Chair Jennifer Roalsen

Junior Activities Chair Carrie Doores

UNITS

Lynn Canal Unit 12

Sitka Unit 13

Matanuska Valley Unit 15

Nome Unit 19

Gladys M Heintz Memorial Unit 27

Con Miller Unit 30

Peter Heyano Unit 442

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Ruth Brown

Betty Bumala

Laverne Kearns

Sue Cherrier

Evelyn Oliver

June Haas

Lori FitzSimmons

Betty Porter

Eva Aulston

Jean Clayton

Judy Pusti

Etta Singleton

Wilma Stokes

Jean Shandy

Jill Pawson

Francisca Guilford

Lynn Bash

Beverly Eads

VOTING STRENGTH

Units

Jack Henry Unit 1	23 + 1 for total of	24
Ketchikan Unit 3	5 + 1 for a total of	6
Seward Unit 5	11 + 1 for a total of	12
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6	9 + 1 for a total of	10
Dorman H Baker Unit 11	6 + 1 for a total of	7
General Buckner Unit 16	12 + 1 for a total of	13
Robert G. Blair Unit 17.....	8 + 1 for a total of	9
Ninilchik Unit 18	9 + 1 for a total of	10
George H. Plumely Memorial Unit 20.....	14 + 1 for a total of	15
Spenard Unit 28	23 + 1 for a total of	24
Muldoon Unit 29.....	10 + 1 for a total of	11
Peters Creek Unit 33	13 + 1 for a total of	14
Chappie James Unit 34	3 + 1 for a total of	4
Susitna Valley Unit 35	16 + 1 for a total of	17
C. Russell Huber Unit 57	19 + 1 for a total of	20
TOTAL UNIT STRENGTH	196	

Officers (1 vote per office)

President Barbe Wolkoff.....	1
1 st Vice-President Debbie Lowndes.....	1
2 nd Vice-President Jane Larson.....	1
Secretary Barbara Nath.....	1
Treasurer Diana Estrada.....	1
Historian Colleen Newman.....	1
Chaplain Margaret Blankenship.....	1
Sergeant-at-Arms Zona Gregg.....	1
Executive Committeewoman Lori Fruhwirth.....	1
TOTAL OFFICER STRENGTH	9

Standing Committees (1 vote per chairman if not counted above)

Children and Youth – Barbara Hommel.....	1
Community Service – Penny Mazonna.....	1
Distinguished Guests – Lisa Williamson.....	1
Education and Scholarship – Darlene Sheldon.....	1
Girls State – Yvonne Lamm.....	1
Leadership – Sue Caswell.....	1
Legislative – Sue Waldhaus.....	1
TOTAL STANDING COMMITTEE STRENGTH	7

Past Department Presidents (1 vote per PDP if not counted above)

Lori FitzSimons.....	1
Lavonne Collier.....	1
Carolyn Null.....	1
Rehta Foster.....	1
Betty Randall.....	1
Sharon Cherrette.....	1
TOTAL PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS STRENGTH	6

TOTAL DEPARTMENT VOTING STRENGTH.....218

NOMINATIONS

Department President – Debbie Lowndes (Unit 33) has been nominated for this position. President Barbe Wolkoff asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Barbe Wolkoff declared Debbie Lowndes President for the 2018-2019 year by acclamation.

1st Vice-President – Jane Larson (Unit 35) has been nominated for this position. President Barbe Wolkoff asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Barbe Wolkoff declared Jane Larson 1st Vice-President for the 2018-2019 year by acclamation.

2nd Vice-President – Yvonne Lamm (Unit 33) has been nominated for this position. President Barbe Wolkoff asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Barbe Wolkoff declared Yvonne Lamm 2nd Vice-President for the 2018-2019 year by acclamation.

Secretary – Barbara Nath (Unit 20) has been nominated for this position. President Barbe Wolkoff asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Barbe Wolkoff declared Barbara Nath Secretary for the 2018-2019 year by acclimation.

Treasurer – Diana Estrada (Unit 35) has been nominated for this position. President Barbe Wolkoff asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Barbe Wolkoff declared Diana Estrada Treasurer for the 2018-2019 year by acclimation.

Historian – There were no nominations for this position. President Barbe Wolkoff asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Peters Creek Unit 33 nominated Ann Robinson. President Barbe Wolkoff asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Barbe Wolkoff declared Ann Robinson Historian for the 2018-2019 year by acclimation.

Chaplain – Marge Blankenship (Unit 33) and Colleen Newman (Unit 35) were nominated for this position. At this time, Colleen Newman (Unit 35) declined her nomination. President Barbe Wolkoff asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, President Barbe Wolkoff declared Marge Blankenship Chaplain for the 2018-2019 year by acclimation.

Sgt.-at-Arms – Lori Fruhwirth (Unit 11) has been nominated for this position. President Barbe Wolkoff asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Barbe Wolkoff declared Lori Fruhwirth Sgt.-at-Arms for the 2018-2019 year by acclimation.

Executive Committeewomen – There were three nominations (Ann Foley – Unit 1; April Sinclair – Unit 57; and Kathy Moore – Unit 29). Because there are three nominations and only two positions, a ballot will be held to determine which two will be elected to these positions.

Lisa Williamson (Balloting Committee Chairman) explained how the process would work. Ballots were collected and the Balloting Committee left the room to count the ballots.

While the Balloting Committee was out of the room, the following occurred:

PPP Luncheon Report – Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28) reported that there were 58 women in attendance. This included seven veterans (one of whom is on the next Honor Flight). During the Luncheon, the Woman of the Year was selected to be April Sinclair (Unit 57) who is invited to attend National Convention. The Servicewoman of the Year was Jamie Greendyke (Unit 5). Sue Waldhaus was thanked and given a hand for her work on today's luncheon.

MOTION: by Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) and seconded by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) to have the gaming permit continue with Loyal Ladies Enterprises.

It was noted that this is where our gaming permit is currently.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The Balloting Committee returned and announced that April Sinclair (Unit 57) and Ann Foley (Unit 1) were nominated to the two positions of Executive Committeewomen.

This concluded the Election of Officers.

DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

The following indicated they would be attending the National Convention in August. Once National informs us of the number of delegates and alternates allowed for the Department of Alaska, they will be determined.

April Sinclair (Unit 57) – Woman of the Year
Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) -- NEC
Penny Mazonna (Unit 33) – Alternate NEC
Barbe Wolkoff (Unit 33) –Outgoing Department President
Debbie Lowndes (Unit 33) – Incoming Department President
Jane Larson (Unit 35) – 2nd Vice-President (Incoming 1st Vice-President)
Diana Estrada (Unit 35) – Department Treasurer
Barbara Nath (Unit 20) – Department Secretary
Lori Wolfe (Unit 5)
Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28)
Rehta Foster (Unit 28)
Amy Bell (Unit 1)
Sharon Cherrette (Unit 29)
Lori Fruhwirth (Unit 11) – Incoming Sgt.-at-Arms
Lavonne Collier (Unit 1)
Susan Caswell (Unit 33)
Yvonne Lamm (Unit 33) maybe
Carolyn Null (Unit 28) maybe

CONVENTION ADJOURNMENT

The closing prayer was given by Chaplain Marge Blankenship.

The Convention was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.