

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA CONVENTION
April 21, 2022 to April 23, 2022
Spenard Post 28**

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 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 held its meeting at the Main Event Catering (1041 E. 7th, Suite B, Anchorage) while the Honorary Junior Auxiliary held its meeting at the Elks Office (1041 E. 76th, Suite D, Anchorage).

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:52 p.m. by President Jane Larson.

MOTION: by Anarene Robinson (Unit 33) and seconded that Opening Ceremonies be dispensed except for the Pledge of Allegiance and the Prayer.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ROLL CALL

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>National Officers</u>			
NEC Member Penny Mazonna	X		
Alternate NEC Sue Diaz			X
<u>Department Officers</u>			
President Jane Larson	X		
1 st Vice President Anarene Robinson	X		
2 nd Vice President April Sinclair.....			X
Secretary Barbara Nath	X		
Treasurer Diana Estrada.....	X		
Chaplain Colleen Newman	X		
Historian Lori Fruhwirth.....	X		
Sgt.-at-Arms Frances Bedel	X		
Executive Committee Member Robyn Downs	X		
Executive Committee Member Sheryl Howe			X

ROLL CALL (continued)

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>Standing Committees</u>			
Alaska Girls State – Lori Fruhwirth.....	X		
Americanism – Jane Larson.....	X		
Audit – Sue Diaz.....		X	
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Zona Gregg.....	X		
Children and Youth – Sheryl Howe.....			X
Community Services – Kathy Moore	X		
Constitution and Bylaws – Sue Diaz		X	
Distinguished Guests – Penny Mazonna.....	X		
Education and Scholarship – Lisa Boyles.....			X
Finance Beverly Eads			X
Historian – Lori Fruhwirth.....	X		
Junior Activities – Nina Ketelsen	X		
Leadership – Delores “Dee” Stokes.....			X
Legislative – Penny Mazonna.....	X		
Membership – Anarene Robinson	X		
National Security – Frances Bedel.....	X		
Past Presidents’ Parley – Jane Larson.....	X		
Poppy – Christine Calabrese.....	X		
Public Relations – Beverly Eads.....			X
VA&R – April Sinclair		X	

Units

Jack Henry Unit 1	X		
Joseph T. Craig Unit 3	X		
Seward Unit 5	X		
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6	X		
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11	X		
Lynn Canal Unit 12.....			X
Sitka Unit 13			X
Matanuska Valley Unit 15			X
General Buckner Unit 16	X		
Robert G. Blair Unit 17.....			X
Ninilchik Unit 18	X		
George H. Plumley Memorial Unit 20.....	X		
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

ROLL CALL (continued)

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>Past Department Presidents</u>			
Eva Aulston.....			X
Lynn Bash			X
Margaret Blankenship.....	X		
Ruth Brown.....			X
Betty Bumula			X
Susan Caswell	X		
Sharon Cherrette		X	
Jean Clayton.....			X
Lavonne Collier			X
Sue Diaz		X	
Beverly Eads			X
Lori FitzSimons			X
Rehta Foster	X		
Francisca Guillford		X	
June Haas			X
Laverne Kearns			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.....	X		
Lisa Williamson		X	
Barbe Wolkoff			X

Jane introduced Toni Gimpel, the National Western Division Vice President. She also introduced Marge Blankenship (National Western Division Leadership Chair) and April Sinclair (National Western Division VA&R Chair). Jane then asked her Department officers to stand and be recognized. Finally, she asked those who had never attended a Department Convention to stand up. There were nine members.

National Western Division Vice President Toni Gimpel then conducted an initiation ceremony. This was done for everyone who had never gone through an initiation ceremony at their unit when they became a member.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Credentials	Barbara Nath
Rules	Anarene (Ann) Robinson
Constitution and Bylaws	Sue Diaz
Resolutions.....	Rehta Foster, Joan Matthews, and Debbie Brahm
Finance	No Finance Committee
Nominations.....	Sue Waldhaus and one unit president/delegate for each unit
Parliamentarians.....	Sue Caswell
Distinguished Guests	Penny Mazonna
Audit	No Audit Committee
History/Scrapbook	Lori Fruhwirth, Carole Johnson, and Barbara Zimbliski
Poppy	Christine Calabrese, Marge Blankenship and Pat Francois
Chaplain	Colleen recused herself. Donna Brockschmidt, Robyn Downs, and Shirley Shadbolt
Balloting.....	Robyn recused herself. Sue Todd, Sharon Dillion, and Benda Fiddick
Scholarship`	Colleen Newman, Samantha Cody, Carolyn Henry
Unit Member of the Year.....	Sharon Dillon, Carole Johnson and Lori Fruhwirth

READING OF THE RULES

Second Vice President Anarene (Ann) Robinson read the rules for this convention

The Juniors were dismissed to their meeting at this time.

ALAMIS

Diana Estrada (Department Treasurer) spoke briefly about ALAMIS. It is set up so you can take the training on-line to process membership. Right now any number of documents are being submitted and they are not correct. Usually it means something wasn't marked that needs to be (i.e. is the person sponsoring them dead or alive). The Unit must approve the application and a letter on unit letterhead, and a copy of the minutes must be submitted to the Department.

Jeanne Ostnes (Unit 1) asked if we can do a search through census connection to get a copy of a DD214 . If you know where they are buried you can do a search there. You can also look at a local cemetery to get verification that they are related.

RECESS:

The meeting went into recess at 2:38 p.m.

RETURN FROM RECESS:

The meeting returned from recess at 2:59 p.m.

Muldoon Unit 29 has a book for the competition as does Susitna Valley Unit 35. All books have to be here by 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

Christine Calabrese asked that any units who had not turned in their poppy reports do so at this time.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Members went into convention committee meetings at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Service to Vets – Donna Brockschmidt stated she had received reports from 12 units. There were 7,637 hours (one was a Junior member).

Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Zona Gregg explained the committee's responsibilities and actions. She received reports from 12 units. There were no request for Auxiliary Emergency Funds this past year. There is money in the account. They are trying to raise \$2,400 for national and state funds. She explained the committee's function and responsibilities.

Americanism – Reports were received from nine (9) units. Anarene Robinson stated that she knows units are doing Americanism activities but we are not getting many reports of those activities.

Leadership – Nine (9) units reported \$2,124 with 44 people volunteering and 2,791 hours.

Membership – Ann reported that we are farther along than last year at this time. We are at 89.42%. There were 354 hours reported.

Constitution and Bylaws – Barb Nath reported for Sue Diaz. There were no changers to be considered for this year. It is anticipated that there will be changes to governing documents in the upcoming year. Most units reported that they had made no changes to their documents, but they had been reviewed.

National Security – Frances Bedel reported that National sends out ALA security news. It contains a lot of information. She noted that Blue Star families are those who are or were in service. The Gold Star families are those who have passed away. The Red Star represents a captured or missing member. The White Star recognizes families who lost a member to suicide.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Marge talked about services for members who have passed away. We show a lot of care, but we must be sure to follow up with the remaining family members. She talked about when a spouse dies and the remaining spouse no longer has the money for membership. She also talked about the memorial wall.

- Members brought up the fundraisers that were being done this convention.
- Rehta Foster noted that a member lost a ring while putting together the bags. Please look in your bags to see if it is there.
- The Honor flight is leaving Tuesday and returning Saturday.
- It was asked that those that received caregivers awards please send a picture to National President Kathy Daudistel.
- On April 25th, Susitna Valley Post 35 is conducting an ice cream social for military children.
- Marge Blankenship told members that the “doll lady” has three dolls left and she has three to raffle. Let Marge know if you are interested in one of the dolls.
- Lori Fruhwirth talked about last year’s Girls State. It was virtual with Hawaii. She showed the shirt that was given. If anyone is interested in the three left over shirts, there will be a silent auction on Saturday.

RECESS

The convention recessed at 4:25 p.m. until Friday, April 25th at 9:00 a.m.

FRIDAY APRIL 22

The Convention was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by President Jane Larson.

ROLL CALL

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>National Officers</u>			
NEC Member Penny Mazonna	X		
Alternate NEC Sue Diaz		X	
<u>Department Officers</u>			
President Jane Larson	X		
1 st Vice President Anarene Robinson	X		
2 nd Vice President April Sinclair.....		X	
Secretary Barbara Nath	X		
Treasurer Diana Estrada.....	X		
Chaplain Colleen Newman	X		
Historian Lori Fruhwirth.....	X		
Sgt.-at-Arms Frances Bedel	X		
Executive Committee Member Robyn Downs	X		
Executive Committee Member Sheryl Howe			X
<u>Standing Committees</u>			
Alaska Girls State – Lori Fruhwirth.....	X		
Americanism – Jane Larson.....	X		
Audit – Sue Diaz		X	
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Zona Gregg.....	X		
Children and Youth – Sheryl Howe.....			X
Community Services – Kathy Moore	X		
Constitution and Bylaws – Sue Diaz		X	
Distinguished Guests – Penny Mazonna.....	X		
Education and Scholarship – Lisa Boyles.....			X
Finance Beverly Eads			X
Historian – Lori Fruhwirth.....	X		
Junior Activities – Nina Ketelsen	X		
Leadership – Delores “Dee” Stokes.....			X
Legislative – Penny Mazonna.....	X		
Membership – Anarene Robinson	X		
National Security – Frances Bedel.....	X		
Past Presidents’ Parley – Jane Larson.....	X		
Poppy – Christine Calabrese.....	X		
Public Relations – Beverly Eads.....			X
VA&R – April Sinclair	X		

ROLL CALL (continued)

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>Units</u>			
Jack Henry Unit 1	X		
Joseph T. Craig Unit 3	X		
Seward Unit 5	X		
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6	X		
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11	X		
Lynn Canal Unit 12.....			X
Sitka Unit 13			X
Matanuska Valley Unit 15			X
General Buckner Unit 16			X
Robert G. Blair Unit 17.....			X
Ninilchik Unit 18	X		
George H. Plumley Memorial Unit 20.....	X		
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	X		
Ruth Brown			X
Betty Bumula			X
Susan Caswell	X		
Sharon Cherrette		X	
Jean Clayton.....			X
Lavonne Collier			X
Sue Diaz		X	
Beverly Eads			X
Lori FitzSimons			X
Rehta Foster	X		
Francisca Guillford		X	
June Haas			X
Laverne Kearns			X
Debbie Lowndes			X
Penny Mazonna.....	X		
Carolyn Null.....	X		
Evelyn Oliver			X

ROLL CALL (continued)

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

JUNIOR PROJECT

The Juniors distributed a poppy bag and asked each unit to make a poppy and be prepared to explain the meaning of each leaf. They will be judged and a winner announced at lunch.

READING OF NOMINATIONS

Nominating Committee Members read endorsement letters for the following:

President Anarene Robinson, Peters Creek Unit 33
1st Vice President April Sinclair, C. Russell Huber Unit 57
2nd Vice President Lori Fruhwirth, Dorman H. Baker Unit 11
Chaplain Kathy Moore, Muldoon Unit 29
Sergeant-at-Arms Francis Bedel, C. Russell Huber Unit 57
Executive Committee Robyn Downs, Jack Henry Unit 1
Executive Committee Colleen Newman, Susitna Valley Unit 35
Executive Committee Josette Kinslow, Con Miller Unit 30
Executive Committee Carole Johnson, Peters Creek Unit 33

RECESS

The Convention recessed at 9:35 a.m.

RETURN FROM RECESS

The Convention came back to order at 10:00 a.m.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Howard Fruhwirth introduced Michael Fox, the SAL National Commander and his wife Crystal. Michael spoke for a few minutes and introduced his wife Crystal. He stated it was great to be back together after two years. The Legion family could not and did not shut down. They found new ideas and ways to meet the need. There was one thing that never changed during the pandemic – our veterans still needed us. When forced, you learn. Don't forget what you learned in this time period – the new ways to get business done. If we were able to accomplish so much when shut down, think how much they could do today and how they could help our veterans and family members. He doesn't think the Legion would exist without the Auxiliary. It is the true back bone of the Legion. In his home post, it was the Auxiliary that kept things going. He gave thanks to the Auxiliary for all they have done for the Sons of the American Legion in Alaska.

The Commander's project is the Veterans and Children's Foundation. He wants to raise \$2 million and Mike said the Sons of the American Legion would get \$500,000. There are four and half months left and your Sons have put together almost \$700,000. It's not the person in the chair, it's the people behind them. The stronger the family members are, the stronger the Legion would be. Mike is asking for participation. He developed a program that started in 1919 and put a spin on it. This was putting flags on veterans' graves. 400,000 veterans a year were laid to rest. This project, Flying Flags for Heroes, is to highlight those local cemeteries. He set a goal of one million flags over the year. There are over two million members in the family so it isn't as big a challenge as it could be. He asked us to go to flyingflagsforheros.com and tell about the flags we placed. Answer the questions, and upload folders. SAL will be celebrating its 50th convention and there will be a slide show of the flags and photos submitted. Check with others like Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc, who have placed flags and get their information to put on the web site. Always remember there is no limit to the amount of good we can do – we are the American Legion Family.

Steve Huisman introduced the American Legion Commander Paul Dillard and soon to be Commander Jim Triola

Upcoming Commander Jim Triola looks forward to working with the American Legion Auxiliary. His project will be veterans' suicide. He appreciates the work the Auxiliary does. He is looking forward to a successful year with all family members.

Commander Paul Dillard expressed his appreciation for the American Legion Auxiliary working side by side with the Legion. He explained that his wife, Donna, is enjoying their new grandson and he is trying to figure out when he gets to visit. He asked us to get hold of senators and representatives to support the PAC Act bill. He gave an update on his mother-in-law who is doing fine. He is very appreciative of the support from the American Legion Auxiliary.

RECESS

The Convention went in to recess at 10:12 a.m.

RETURN FROM RECESS

The Convention returned from recess at 10:18 a.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resolutions Committee – Rheta Foster stated that the Resolutions Committee reported that the only resolutions for this convention are the courtesy resolutions.

Poppy Committee – Chris Calabrese noted there are no poppy posters for this year due to Covid. There were no poppy books. She showed a picture of a poppy tree done by one of the units. There were 890 hours and 14 volunteers.

Community Services Committee – Kathy Moore reported that units had helped fire victims, hospice, senior centers and sports teams. There were 967 volunteers over 7,205 hours and 8,926 miles.

Anchorage Christmas Project – Jane went to the Pioneer Home in Anchorage and Palmer. She also distributed gift bags to a nursing home in Chugiak. A total of 92 bags were distributed. In addition, residents of the domiciliary received jackets this year. There was a total of 40 hours and 635 miles.

Chaplain – Colleen Newman found that our chaplains provide guidance with prayers and a smiling face. The visited members, shut-ins and residents in long term hospital and care centers. Flowers, sympathy and get-well cards were sent as necessary.

As Chaplains we are continuously looking for ways to support the emotional and spiritual needs of our veteran's, military, and communities

20 out of 21 Units Reported
1,257 Volunteer Hours Reported
30 Member Names Read at Post Everlasting Ceremony
\$3,195 Reported as Money Spent

Girls State – Lori Fruhwirth was excited to share that National had allowed us to join ranks with Hawaii this last year for a virtual Girls State. Our state Samsung winner, Sarah Price from Eagle River, went on to win a runner-up National Samsung award for \$5,000.00. Units have been hard at work for our 2022 program. Thirteen (13) Units have reported sending out e-mails to school districts, putting the information out in newsletters and Facebook posts, flyers around town and word of mouth. ALA Alaska Girls State 2022 program will be held in person, June 4th through June 10th at the Elk's Campground in Sutton, Alaska. At this time, we have 13 citizens participating in the program.

Donations\$1,950
Volunteers21
Hours1,173
Miles7,240

Historian – Lori Fruhwirth noted some history making landmarks this past year – Department President Jane Larson served 3 years due to Covid; the Alaska Girls State Program was allowed to join with Hawaii for this year's program; and we celebrated our 100th birthday providing services to veterans and their families in the state of Alaska. Our members were very busy during the year with Flag Day, Memorial Day, Alaska Girls State, Independence Day, Christmas activities, Valentine's Day, Presidents Day and holding elections for the year. National President Kathy Daudistel visited in April before our Department Convention.

CAREGIVER AWARDS

Western Division National Vice President Toni Gimpel presented Caregiver certificates on behalf of National President Kathy Daudistel. She encouraged everyone who received a caregiver award at other events with the National President to be sure pictures were sent to National President Kathy Daudistel. Those who received certificates at our Department Convention were: Shirley Johnson-Shadbolt, Doris Vig, Joanna Pippenger, Marilyn Southerland and Pearl Baker

RECESS

The Convention went into recess at 11:07 a.m. for working on the Junior Project and for the Children and Youth Luncheon.

RETURN FROM RECESS

The Convention returned from recess at 2:00 p.m.

JUNIOR PROJECT

Upon return, each unit presented the poppy they had made from the supplies provided by the Juniors. After judging, Jack Henry Unit 1 took first place. They received a poppy hat. Dorman H. Baker Unit 11 took second place and received a poppy bracelet.

SCRAPBOOKS -- JUNIORS

A scrapbook was submitted by Susitna Valley Unit 35. They received a \$25 award.

PARADE OF CHECKS

During the Parade of Checks, the following donations were received:

Future Development:	431.00
AEF:	3452.57
Past President's Parley	685.00
President Fund Raiser:	500.00
Juniors:	1,330.00
Child Welfare:	773.70
Alaska Girls State	4,530.00

BUDGET

Diana stated that she would not be going through the budget line-by-line. She stated that some funds from Gaming should go to Girls State for their expenses.

A review was done of the General Account. She went through page by page asking if there were any questions. There were none.

There has been minimal income and expenses for Girls State this year since we combined with Hawaii. The Girls State Savings account earns interest.

Gaming account funds were used for a number of expenses since we had to spend it. It cannot be used for out-of-state expenses.

Merrilyn Stock may be gaining interest. Donations can be made to this fund.

Rehabilitation (VA&R) – We did not use much from this account.

The colored pages are the proposed budget for 2022-2023. Questions were asked about the proposed budget.

MOTION: by Joan Matthews (Unit 35) and seconded to increase payroll for the secretary and treasurer positions by \$100 per month for each position.

Salaries come from the General Account

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded to make \$12,000 available from Gaming for Alaska Girls State.

The campground expense is \$5,000 and airfare will need to be covered for four people at this time. Food is expected to cost about \$2,000 - \$3,000. In addition there are many supplies that need to be replaced.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION by Ann Robinson (Unit 33) and seconded to donate \$500 from the General Account to National Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28) asked if a check sent into Department, would automatically be sent to National. Everyone was asked to indicate on their check if it was for Alaska or for National and it would be distributed appropriately.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded to donate \$500 each to the Creative Arts Festival and to VAVS n the National level.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION by Joan Matthews (Unit 35) and seconded to donate \$1,000 from Gaming for the VAVS Statewide Celebration.

This is celebrating 35 years of serving veterans. May 18th is the celebration date. It can be specified as to how the \$1,000 s used.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

RECESS

The Convention went into recess at 2:50 p.m.

RETURN FROM RECESS

The Convention returned from recess at 3:00 p.m.

GAMING

It was asked that at the Fall Workshop the Department Treasurer Diana Estrada explain to those in attendance how Gaming works for our state.

WOMEN VETERANS

Ann noted on May 21st there is an annual Anchorage celebration of women veterans. They set up tables and give out information on our organization to the lady veterans. This year TAL has asked to join us and have a family table. Sharon, Marge and Ann are already going to be here. It

is strictly an Anchorage event. It will be at the Anchorage VA Center. Robyn Downs stated that Unit 1 would like to volunteer for this.

MOTION: by Brenda Fiddick (Unit 57) and seconded to donate \$1,000 for the VA of Alaska with funds coming from the Gaming Account.

Diana stated that this was already in the proposed budget.

The motion was rescinded.

MOTION: by Colleen Newman (Unit 35) and seconded to accept the 2022-2023 budget as proposed.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

JUDGING OF BOOKS/PRESIDENTS PROJECT

History Book – Those history books that were submitted were judged. Spenard Unit 28 was the winner.

Scrapbook – There were four scrapbooks for judging. Jack Henry Unit 1 took first place (\$25) with Susitna Valley Unit 35 taking second place (\$10) and Spenard Unit 28 taking third place (\$5). Jack Henry Unit 1 donated their award back to Alaska Children and Youth, Spenard Unit 28 donated their award back to the Department Children and Youth fund while Susitna Valley Unit 35 donated their award back to Alaska Girls State.

President's Poppy Project – The Presidents Poppy Project was a birthday hat celebrating our 100th birthday and utilizing poppies. They were judged by the National Commander, the SAL National Commander and the ALA Western Division National Vice President. Winners were:

3rd Place – Minnie Pearl Hat (Dorman H. Baker Unit 11 – \$10.00)

2nd Place – Cowboy Hat (C. Russell Huber Unit 57 – \$15.00)

1st Place – Crocheted hat (Joseph T. Craig Unit 3 -- \$25.00)

The awards from all three units were donated back to Alaska Girls State.

Chaplain Book – There was one book from Susitna Valley Unit 35 for which they were awarded \$25. They donated their award back to Alaska Girls State.

RECESS

The Convention recessed at 3:30 pm until Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2022

The Convention reconvened at 9:08 a.m.

ROLL CALL

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>National Officers</u>			
NEC Member Penny Mazonna		X	
Alternate NEC Sue Diaz		X	
<u>Department Officers</u>			
President Jane Larson	X		
1 st Vice President Anarene Robinson	X		
2 nd Vice President April Sinclair.....		X	
Secretary Barbara Nath	X		
Treasurer Diana Estrada.....	X		
Chaplain Colleen Newman	X		
Historian Lori Fruhwirth.....	X		
Sgt.-at-Arms Frances Bedel	X		
Executive Committee Member Robyn Downs	X		
Executive Committee Member Sheryl Howe			X
<u>Standing Committees</u>			
Alaska Girls State – Lori Fruhwirth.....	X		
Americanism – Jane Larson.....	X		
Audit – Sue Diaz.....		X	
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Zona Gregg.....	X		
Children and Youth – Sheryl Howe.....			X
Community Services – Kathy Moore	X		
Constitution and Bylaws – Sue Diaz		X	
Distinguished Guests – Penny Mazonna.....		X	
Education and Scholarship – Lisa Boyles.....			X
Finance Beverly Eads			X
Historian – Lori Fruhwirth.....	X		
Junior Activities – Nina Ketelsen	X		
Leadership – Delores “Dee” Stokes.....			X
Legislative – Penny Mazonna.....		X	
Membership – Anarene Robinson	X		
National Security – Frances Bedel.....	X		
Past Presidents’ Parley – Jane Larson.....	X		
Poppy – Christine Calabrese	X		
Public Relations – Beverly Eads.....			X
VA&R – April Sinclair	X		

ROLL CALL (continued)

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>Units</u>			
Jack Henry Unit 1	X		
Joseph T. Craig Unit 3	X		
Seward Unit 5	X		
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6	X		
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11	X		
Lynn Canal Unit 12.....			X
Sitka Unit 13			X
Matanuska Valley Unit 15			X
General Buckner Unit 16	X		
Robert G. Blair Unit 17.....			X
Ninilchik Unit 18	X		
George H. Plumley Memorial Unit 20.....	X		
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
<u>Past Department Presidents</u>			
Eva Aulston.....			X
Lynn Bash			X
Margaret Blankenship.....	X		
Ruth Brown.....			X
Betty Bumula			X
Susan Caswell	X		
Sharon Cherrette		X	
Jean Clayton.....			X
Lavonne Collier			X
Sue Diaz		X	
Beverly Eads			X
Lori FitzSimons			X
Rehta Foster	X		
Francisca Guillford		X	
June Haas			X
Laverne Kearns			X
Debbie Lowndes			X
Penny Mazonna.....		X	
Carolyn Null.....	X		
Evelyn Oliver			X

ROLL CALL (continued)

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

REPORTS

Junior Update – Nina Ketelsen explained the kits the Juniors had. They are trying to do outreach. Each bag has a coloring book, post card, pencils, and crayons. The goal is to ask children if they would like a kit and that opens a conversation with adults about membership. Units were told they could have some kits if they wanted.

Scholarship Report – There were three scholarships either awarded or forwarded to National for consideration. They were:

- Children of Warriors – Olivia Glasman, General Buckner Unit 16 (forwarded to National)
- Non-Traditional Student – Brianna Ball, General Buckner Unit 16 (forwarded to National)
- Merrilyn Stock – Brianna Ball, General Buckner Unit 16 (Awarded \$1,500)

President's Report – Jane noted that she did a lot of visits, some of them unofficial. Everyone made her feel like she was at home. Her mom was at National and got to see her installed. She went to Nicole Clapp's homecoming. She went to a mission training and took Nina to the Mission training also. A new approach for membership is to get people involved and then ask if they want to join.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Jane has tickets for a basket – Tickets are 6 for \$5 or a dollar each. The funds go to future development.
- Sue Waldhaus has cards for some members who couldn't make convention. Please sign so we can let them know we missed them.
- Poppies – Of each units income from poppies, 15% should be sent to department. No form, just send it as a separate check and mark if for poppies.
- Western Division National Vice President – It will be Alaska's turn to pick a Western Divisional National Vice President for the 2023-2024 year. They will represent the entire Western Division. Unit were provided with information about this position and asked to submit endorsement letters for anyone they wish to nominate.

INFORMATION SHARING

Each unit was asked to share one thing they did this year.

Unit 1 – Samantha Cody stated that they planned a Celebration of Life for a past commander, provided 100 goodie bags for the Hope Center, and worked a soup kitchen,

Unit 3 – Samantha Funk stated they were proud to host the 2022 Fall Conference. They are working on getting each section of the Family to do different and more things. The Fall Conference involved all members in planning and carrying off the Fall Conference and it was a huge success.

Unit 5 – Sharon Dillon noted this last year has been a busy year and she isn't aware of anything special the unit was doing. They did provide dinners when the community was shut down. They also did a burial at sea and invited the Coast Guard ship. There are navy ships that are more than welcome at the post and they get a dinner. She will be president this year.

Unit 6 – Marilyn Mork reported that her unit does a lot of things all the time. They have a veteran's corner with furniture, etc. There is also a corner to sit and visit during the day.

Unit 11 – Michele Giddings is proud that they met the needs for people who were adversely affected by the weather. They did emergency votes on line.

Unit 16 – Donna Brockschmidt pointed out that they did a Veterans Appreciation Picnic (about 100 veterans and families). Joan Mathews (Unit 35) thanked Homer because a hockey team from Wasilla went to Homer and were treated like royalty by the Legion family

Unit 18 – Christine Calabrese had so many people leave during the winter. They just did an Easter egg hunt with 56 children.

Unit 20 – Crystal Stonecipher has a veteran who turned 100 and challenged members to have 100 motorcycles ride by his home. There were 179 total.

Unit 28 – Sue Waldhaus said they were very busy with convention. It is rewarding to see newer members taking over. It was good to see the three-legged stool working together. Teri brought attention to the Bethel project. She works with child protective services and goes into villages outside of Bethel. She gets kids into foster care. There are many veterans and the unit did a collection of clothing and school items for the Bethel office to distribute to children when they are removed from their home. The Unit started doing Easter dinners and provided them to veterans whether or not they are members of the post. One had a family of 11 and is a grandma veteran. She is still working and just took custody of 5 little girls and they got dinner and Easter baskets.

Unit 29 – Shirley Shadbolt noted they combined a lot of activities with Post 34 and the VFW. These included activities for Halloween, Christmas and Easter.

Unit 30 – Josette Kinslow reported that they start the season with an Angel Tree (25 this year and all were filled), Christmas party, Halloween party, and a Super Bowl party. During their dark season (Sept to April) they are doing pizza and hot dogs.

Unit 33 – Susan Garner let people know that if it involves food Unit 33 is there. They did a fundraiser for Lisa Williamson. They partnered with the combat vets and motorcycle association and did a tree for Fisher House. They also partnered with the Eagles to support the Chugiak Senior Citizens. Finally, they did an "ask" for veterans for housing needs and furnished six households.

Unit 35 – Joan Matthews said her unit celebrated the 20th year of the Special Olympics fundraiser dinner. They did not host WWII dinner this year, but honored veterans. They did the Four Chaplains utilizing both scout troops. Nina has renewed our Junior unit to include the SAL members (SAL members can do everything except vote). They sent 939 boxes to overseas troops who were from Alaska.

Unit 57 – Brenda Fiddick stated they took advantage of outreach opportunities to get information into the community about the Legion. They also worked with the USO, did school supply drives, and hosted National President Kathy Daudistel.

Service to Vets -- Service hour certificates were presented to all who provided services. Pins and bars will be sent out when received.

Toni received gifts as follows

- Plaque – advise from a wolf (\$150)
- Bear soap dish
- Butterfly suncatcher
- Moose (red, white, blue) pin
- Bear pin
- Moose kitchen set
- Turquoise necklace and earrings.

RECESS

The Convention went into recess at 11:00 a.m. for the PPP Luncheon

RETURN FROM RECESS

The Convention came back from recess at 1:30 p.m.

Past Presidents Parley Report – President Jane Larson reported on the success of the Past President Parley Luncheon. While National has moved the Unit Member of the Year and the Service Member of the Year out of the Past President Parley, Alaska is continuing to vote on those during the PPP Luncheon. Representatives to do the judging will include the chairs of those committees. There was no submissions for Service Member of the Year. The Unit Member of the Year selected was Connie Landmesser from Unit 35. She will be able to go to the National Convention and her travel, and a portion of her hotel will be covered by National. We had nine guests for this luncheon.

RESOLUTIONS

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded approve Resolution 2022-1 expressing our thanks to the Post 35 Family.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 18) and seconded to approve Resolution 2022-2 thanking Jane Larson for her selflessness and service during the past year as President.

The motion carried by applause and a standing ovation.

Rehta stated she had a good committee and thanked President Jane Larson for allowing her to chair the committee.

Junior Activities Report – The Junior Auxiliary then joined the Senior Auxiliary. Nina Ketelsen reported that they had 49 boxes to send to our troops. It has been a very productive year with a lot of involvement from Unit 35 in coordinating and sending the boxes.

OLD BUSINRSS

There was no Old Business to be brought up at Convention.

VOTING STRENGTH

Units

Jack Henry Unit 1	15 + 1 for a total of	16
Ketchikan Unit 3	6 + 1 for a total of	7
Seward Unit 5	1 + 1 for a total of	16
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6.....	7 + 1 for a total of	8
Dorman H Baker Unit 11	5 + 1 for a total of	6
General Buckner Unit 16.....	12 + 1 for a total of	13
Ninilchik Unit 18	6 + 1 for a total of	7
George H. Plumley Memorial Unit 20	11 + 1 for a total of	12
Spenard Unit 28	22 + 1 for a total of	23
Muldoon Unit 29.....	8 + 1 for a total of	9
Con Miller Unit 30.....	2 – 1 for a total of	3
Peters Creek Unit 33	18 + 1 for a total of	19
Susitna Valley Unit 35	23 + 1 for a total of	24
C. Russell Huber Unit 57	23 +1 for a total of	24
TOTAL UNIT STRENGTH		192

National Officers (1 vote per officer)

National Executive Committee Member Penny Mazonna.....	1
TOTAL NATIONAL OFFICER STRENGTH	1

VOTING STRENGTH (continued)

Officers (1 vote per officer)

President Jane Larson.....	1
1 st Vice President Anarene Robinson	1
Secretary Barbara Nath	1
Historian Lori Fruhwirth	1
Treasurer Diana Estrada	1
Chaplain Colleen Newman.....	1
Sergeant-at-Arms Frances Bedel	1
Executive Committeewoman Robyn Downs.....	1
TOTAL OFFICER STRENGTH	8

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

Auxiliary Emergency Fund	1
Community Service – Kathy Moore.....	1
Junior Activities – Nina Ketelsen.....	1
Poppy – Christine Calabrese	1
TOTAL STANDING COMMITTEE STRENGTH	4

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

Marg Blankenship	1
Susan Caswell	1
Sharon Cherrette	1
Carolyn Null	1
Sue Waldhaus.....	1
TOTAL PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS STRENGTH.....	5

TOTAL DEPARTMENT VOTING STRENGTH.....205

ELECTIONS

Department President –Anarene (Ann) Robinson (Unit 33) has been nominated for this position. President Jane Larson asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Jane Larson declared Anarene Robinson President for the 2022-2023 year by acclamation.

Department 1st Vice President –April Sinclair (Unit 57) has been nominated for this position. President Jane Larson asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Jane Larson declared April Sinclair 1st Vice President for the 2022-2023 year by acclamation.

Department 2nd Vice President –Lori Fruhwirth (Unit 11) has been nominated for this position. President Jane Larson asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Jane Larson declared Lori Fruhwirth 2nd Vice President for the 2022-2023 year by acclamation.

Department Historian –Annette Gwalthney-Jones (Unit 1) has been nominated for this position. President Jane Larson asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Jane Larson declared Annette Gwalthney-Jones Historian for the 2022-2023 year by acclamation.

ELECTIONS (continued)

Department Chaplain –Kathy Moore (Unit 29) has been nominated for this position. President Jane Larson asked if there were any other nominations. Jeanne Ostnes (Unit 1) nominated Samantha Cody (Unit 1) for this position. Voting was done by ballot. After ballots were counted, President Jane Larson declared Samantha Cody Chaplain for the 2022-2023 year.

Department Sgt.-at-Arms –Frances Bedel (Unit 57) has been nominated for this position. President Jane Larson asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, President Jane Larson declared Frances Bedel Sgt.-at-Arms for the 2022-2023 year by acclamation.

Executive Committee –The following were nominated for the Executive Committee: Robyn Downs (Unit 1), Josette Kinslow (Unit 30), Carole Johnson (Unit 33) and Colleen Newman (Unit 35). President Jane Larson asked if there were any other nominations. Because there are only two openings and four nominations, this requires voting be done by ballot. After the ballots were counted, President Jane Larson declared Robyn Downs (Unit 1) and Josette Kinslow (Unit 30) as the elected Executive Committee members for the 2022-2023 year.

MOTION: by Anarene Robinson and seconded to continue to have our gaming permit through the Loyal Ladies.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

HONARARY JUNIOR OFFICERS.

The following Slate of Honorary Junior Officers was present:

President	Amber Gilbreath	General Buckner Unit 16
1 st Vice President.....	Alexus Grim.....	C. Russell Huber Unit 57
2 nd Vice President.....	Melanie Rodeheaver	Susitna Valley Unit 353
Secretary	Samantha Elieff.....	Susitna Valley Unit 35
Chaplain.....	Azalea Chya-Folmar	Susitna Valley Unit 35
Historian	Teyven Chya	Susitna Valley Unit 35
Sgt.-at-Arms (3)		
Sgt.-at-Arm (1).....	Kashwitna “Whitney” Grube	Susitna Valley Unit 35
Sgt-at-Arms (2)	Alize “Allie” Coyle	Susitna Valley Unit 3535
Sgt-at-Arms (3)	Charlotte Clausen-Grim.....	C. Russell Huber Unit 57

MOTION: by Patty Mazonna and seconded to approve and accept the Honorary Junior Slate of Offices.

All Junior officers will be installed with their counterpart Senior Officer during the installation ceremony.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

NATIONAL CONVENTION ATTENDEES

The following indicated that they were planning to attend the 2022 National Convention in Milwaukee in August, 2022:

Robia Bishop
Jessica Blankenship
Linda Blankenship
Marge Blankenship
Sue Caswell
Samantha Cody
Sue Diaz
Robyn Downs
Diana Estrada
Brenda Fiddick
Lori Fruhwirth
Connie Landmesser MOTY
Annette Gwalthney
Jane Larson
Penny Mazonna
Barb Nath
Kyle Parkerson
Ann Robinson
Shirley Shadbolt
April Sinclair
Lisa Williamson

Robyn Downs and Brenda Fiddick agreed to serve as pages

MOTION: by Diana Estrada and seconded to accept those listed above to attend the National Convention in August 2022.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the 2022 American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention, the 2022 American Legion Auxiliary Department Convention was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

For God and Country,

Barbara Nath, Secretary
ALA Department of Alaska