

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Alaska
Department Executive Committee Meeting
April 20, 2016 --7:00 p.m.
Grand View Inn and Suites -- Wasilla, Alaska

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by President Sharon Cherrette.

MOTION by Penny Mazonna and seconded to suspend the prayer, the pledge of allegiance and the preamble.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Officers

Sharon Cherrette, President
Susan Waldhaus, 1st Vice-President
Barbe Wolkoff, 2nd Vice-President
Linda Schmitt, Secretary/Treasurer
Colleen Newman, Historian
Terry Archibald, Executive Committee Woman
Laurie Scott, Executive Committee Woman

Standing Committee Chairs

Zona Gregg, Americanism
Colleen Newman, Cavalcade of Memories
Barb Nath, Children and Youth
Beverly Eads, Distinguished Guests
Lori FitzSimons, Education
Yvonne Lamm, Girls State
Adrienne Huff, Junior Activities
Eva Aulston, Leadership
Lori Fruhwirth, Legislative
Barbe Wolkoff, Membership
Beverly Eads, National Security
Penny Mazonna, Past President Parley
Margaret Blankenship, Poppy
Susan Waldhaus, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

Units

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

Past Department Presidents

Lori Fitzsimons
Susan Caswell
Eva Aulston
Carolyn Null
Beverly Eads
Margaret Blankenship
Penny Mazonna

Excused

Officers

Jane Larson, Chaplain
Diane Estrada, Sgt.-at-Arm

Standing Committee Chairs

Sue Diaz, Audit
Sue Coup, Auxiliary Emergency Fund
Yvonne Porreca, Community Service
Lavonne Collier, Constitution and By-Laws
Patty Mazonna-Jones, Public Relations

Units

Ninilchik Unit 18
Peter Heyano, Unit 442

Past Department Presidents

Lavonne Collier
Linda Gunvalson
Betty Randall
Lisa Williamson
Sue Diaz

Absent

Standing Committee Chairs

Ruth Johnson, Finance

Units

- Joseph T. Craig Unit 3
- Lynn Canal Unit 12
- Sitka Unit 13
- Nome Unit 19
- Gladys M. Heintz Memorial Unit 27
- Con Miller Unit 30
- Chappie James Unit 34

Past Department Presidents

- Judy Pusti
- Rheta Foster
- Jean Shandy
- Jill Pawson
- Francisca Guilford
- Lynn Bash

Linda Schmitt reported that there is a new unit in Dillingham. It is Peter Heyano Unit 442. They are excused at this meeting.

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Linda Schmitt gave the Treasurer's Financial Report.

General account.....	\$ 4,791.69
Gaming.....	\$ 23,236.16
Girls State.....	\$ 9,008.00
Rehab	\$ 5,961.39
Girls State Savings.....	\$ 14,058.50
Evelyn Oliver Savings	\$ 5,008.55
Merrilyn Stock scholarship savings	\$ 15,025.11

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Kevin Collier Donation -- A donation to Kevin Collier was discussed.

MOTION: by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) and seconded to give a \$1,500 donation to Kevin Collier.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Report on Girls State Trailer and Laptops -- Linda reported that she found a 4'x8' trailer. It is in fantastic shape and has forever license plates which do not have to be renewed. They are commercial plates. The trailer is in Yvonne Lamm's yard and is already full. The trailer was purchased for \$1,500.

Linda also reported that she was able to get two laptops for \$197.00 each for Girls State. They are ACER computers with Word already loaded. There will be one for the House and one for the Senate.

NEW BUSINESS

Charter Report -- Linda Schmitt reported that Dillingham is a new charter. She also noted that two units (19 and 27) have lost their tax exempt status because they did not file their 990s. Unit 27 is now working on it with an accountant. Unit 19 is Nome and they are a widow unit. There is only one person there. Last year they turned in 90 members and this year there were 42 members. Lynn Canal Unit 12 just had elections and installation for the first time in three years. Hopefully they will be back up and running. Everyone else is doing well. Linda asked people to watch out for an email from an unknown address next week. Nome will be using a different email address to send in their reports.

Reimbursement for NEC Travel -- Information was provided to those present regarding reimbursement for NEC travel. A resolution will be brought up during the convention. It was stated that every once in a while, the National Executive Committee Woman gets a call back from National (usually a couple times a year) to take care of National business. The NEC representative from Alaska attends these meetings. Every February, they are called back for NEC meetings that coincide with the Washington, D.C. conference which lasts a week. During this time, they "storm the hill" with representatives from across the nation. They pitch for veterans to get more money and for veteran's programs to be funded, as well as any other legislation that would benefit our veterans. While the meeting lasts for a week, National only reimburses for 3 days of the meeting. There will be a resolution introduced which will address providing \$500 for the extra expenses. In addition, Alaska's NEC is also the Distinguished Guests chair which requires flying the guest to Alaska and a hotel for their stay. The resolution will cover \$500 for these expenses also. That would be a total of \$1,000. Receipts would need to be provided in order to get reimbursed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made:

- The Past President Parley Luncheon will be held in our room at the Menard Sports Center on Saturday. The cost is \$15 and if paying by check, make your check out to the Department of Alaska and make sure you state that it is for the Past President Parley Luncheon. In addition, there is a fundraiser regarding plastic eggs. Each egg will cost one dollar. Inside, you could find candy or money and a thank you note. You can

purchase as many eggs as you wish. Funds will go to Past President Parley future development.

- Penny also reported that she has a craft that people can work on during the convention. It consists of hearts on which you write a message to a veteran. The hearts will be delivered to veterans.
- Penny asked that if a unit wants to submit an application for Unit Member of the Year, it can still be done. She has applications with her.
- Colleen Newman will be standing in as the Sgt.-of-Arms for Diana Estrada for Thursday. Diana should be here Friday. Jennifer Roalsten will help with this on Thursday.
- Joint opening ceremonies will be held at the Post at 9:00 a.m. Thursday. First come first served for seating. Breakfast starts at 7:00 a.m.
- Penny announced that driving directions say S. Mack Street. She wanted everyone to know that S. Clapp becomes S. Mack. She also gave the Post phone number of 376-3500
- Penny shared a story of the dedication of folks coming to Alaska for our convention. Mr. Chang flew in today from Taiwan with a 2 hour ride to airport and a 10-hour flight to Anchorage. He will be staying for opening ceremonies, but will be leaving right afterwards. That is definitely dedication.
- Girls State is June 5th and Boys State will be the following week. Unit appreciation day is Wednesday. It is important to have people from the Legion and from the Auxiliary come out to Boys and Girls State. When they speak to the citizens, it has a great impact on them. There are several people who have become Legion or Auxiliary members because of the folks who came to speak.
- Cheyenne Mathews from Ketchikan took 3rd place in the Oratorical Contest.
- Marge Blankenship suggested watching you-tube. There is a video of the American Legion Auxiliary, Washington DC conference.
- Pat Salcedo announced that she has some sun catchers with an Alaska theme (6 of them). She wants at least \$17 each for them. She also has scarves for \$10. In addition, she made a big toolbox that will be auctioned at a joint session.
- Distinguished guests include: National Commander Dale Barnett, National Auxiliary President Sharon Conatser, SAL National Commander Kevin Collier,

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

