

**AMVETS NATIONAL LADIES AUXILIARY  
2009 NATIONAL CONVENTION  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, August 12, 2009**

2009 National Convention Chairman National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler welcomed everyone to New Orleans, LA. She introduced the National Officers and Past National Presidents.

National President Charlene Kee welcomed the first timers and gave welcoming remarks.

National President Charlene Kee called the 63rd Convention to order.

National Chaplain Linda McGriff gave the Invocation.

National Sergeant-At-Arms Sue Dick presented the Colors.

National Sergeant-At Arms Sue Dick led The Pledge of Allegiance.

National Americanism Officer Leslie Wunderle read the Definition of Americanism.

National 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Patty Piening read the Preamble.

National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Dee Kreiling read the Code of Ethics.

National 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Lynda Taylor read the Aims and Purposes.

National Executive Administrator Kellie Haggerty read roll call.

National President Charlene Kee reminded that shorts are not allowed on the meeting floor according to Standing Rule #5. National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson read Standing Rule #5. Clarice Poisson, MI stated, "I think we should allow jeans on this floor." ?? IN, "We should comply with the rule for now and deal with this later in this Convention." Jeannine Reznik, OH stated, "I motion she be allowed to wear shorts for this session but be advised that she will not be allowed to return in shorts." Clarice Poisson, MI seconded. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

National President Charlene Kee introduced the 2008-2009 National Snappiest Jeannine Reznik extended warm wishes and introduced herself as the 2009-2010 National Snappiest. "We were able to award three \$750 Nursing Scholarships this year. Our cookbooks are selling very well." National Saddest Terry McClatchy who extended warm greetings. He introduced the 2009-2010 National Saddest PNC Chuck Taylor, WI. Mr. Taylor also extended warm greetings.

National President Charlene Kee introduced the delegates from the Republic of Taiwan, General and Jason who extended warm greetings and exchanged gifts with Madam President Kee

National President Charlene Kee introduced the Junior AMVETS President Trevor Spiegle. Mr. Spiegle extended greetings. He introduced incoming National President Justin Sheldon, TX. Gave greetings and introduced the new officers.

National Junior AMVETS Coordinator Evelyn McElvin stated, "My report is on Page 83. We will be going to the Aquarium today. Thank you."

National Executive Administrator Kellie Haggerty read announcements/correspondence. "PNP Jan Hapner had her first grandchild. Tomorrow is T-shirt Day. PNP Janet St. Michele wrote that she will no longer be presenting her membership award due to ill health. PNP Doris Burdine sent a note of thank you for the cards

and support. Evelyn McElvin and her family sent a thank you note for everyone's notes of sympathy during following the death of Daniel McElvin."

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson, TN read the Convention Rules.

TAPE ENDED

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson moved to accept the Convention Rules as printed. National First Vice President Patty Piening, OH seconded. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

National President Charlene Kee assigned Gloria Jaskinski, FL as timekeeper.

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson moved for the adoption of the Convention Agenda as printed. It was seconded by National Americanism Leslie Wunderle. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

National First Vice President Patty Piening moved to adopt the 2008 Convention Minutes as printed. National Second Vice President Dee Krieling seconded. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

National President Charlene Kee introduced MG Craig Weldon. He spoke the about Army Community Covenant. This is Secretary of the Army Initiative to bring closer together the US Army to America's communities. Attending members were given a packet of information.

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson stated the Convention Referrals have been referred to the Constitution and ByLaws Committee and will be acted on at this Convention. They will be in the printed report you will receive later today with the recommendations from that Committee.

National Executive Administrator Kellie Haggerty stated, "Two states were omitted from the Deceased Listing. They will printed and handed out this morning. Headquarters has had a great year with a lot of improvements. Life Membership cards have become a routine pattern. Membership steadily came in all year. We need to adhere to the May 31 deadline. I was receiving several memberships up until July. This pushes Convention deadlines back. NEC reports have to meet deadlines as well. If I don't receive your report, I can not put it in the book. Tonya has grown and taken on more responsibilities. Karen has learned a lot and is running registration well with the help of Heidi Dineen. Thank you." Both Tonya and Karen extended greetings.

Ruthann Bean, MI made a presentation on behalf of PNP Gloria I. Clark. PNP Maria Miller has celebrated 60 years of service to the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary.

National President Charlene Kee gave her President's report.

National Officers, Past National President's, Delegates, Alternates and Guests:

What an awesome year! You made it all possible. You made my dream become a reality. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to serve as National President. This has been a year that I will never forget. Thank you!

It was good to be home to attend my department of Florida Mid-Winter Conference. The love shown was overwhelming. I look forward to returning home and attending our Fall SEC Meeting. Thank you NEC Gloria Jasinski and Department of Florida!

It was great being invited to the largest department, Ohio. Their meeting was very constructive and I had the pleasure of attending Department President Sharon Meyer's Testimonial Dinner. Thank you to all!

The trip to Illinois was an educational trip. Although a meeting was being held during my visit NEC Norma Studebaker and President Leslie Nell slipped away during the afternoon and took me on a tour of the city. I also enjoyed listening to PNP Denise LaBatt and PNP Nita Cornell reminisce about their year as National President. Thank you to all!

I attended National Commander Hapner's Testimonial Dinner-Michigan in March. What a wonderful blessing to have such a supportive Commander. He's the best!

The visit to my birthplace Georgia, started with mingling with the patients at Georgia War Veterans Home in Milledgeville. A bingo party was held for the veterans. Afterwards, we attended the Department of Georgia SEC Meeting. NEC Beth Gilmer and I rode many hours together which gave us a chance to know one other better.

The trip to Massachusetts started with a ride on the Duck Tour. National Jr. AMVETS Coordinator Evelyn McElvin and I enjoyed seeing all the historical sites. We also visited the local Posts in the area and attended the Department President Martha Berry's Testimonial. Thank you Linda Dineen, NEC Marie Rorrio and IPNP Heidi Dineen!

The National Sons Commander's testimonial was held in St. Louis, Missouri. While waiting to attend the Testimonial Dinner, Department President Patricia Kessler made arrangements for me to visit Barracks VA Hospital and the site where the new Fisher House is being built on the property.

I would like to thank everyone who attended, sent flowers and love tokens to my Testimonial Dinner hosted by Auxiliary #30, in Orlando, Florida. Also, thanks to AMVETS Cleve Geer, Constance Bango and Evelyn McElvin. Your kindness will never be forgotten.

The Department Convention in Steele, North Dakota was very informative. Their Memorial Service touched my heart with spiritual songs and fellowshiping with one another. Thank you NEC Karla Maddock!

I was asked to attend a roundtable discussion on "The Growing Needs of Women Veterans: Is the VA Ready? This was held at the Cannon House Office Building in Washington, DC. I presented the views of AMVETS that the most significant barrier is a lack of knowledge about eligibility and benefits, and a perception that the VA health-care system is not welcoming to women.

It was indeed an honor to represent the AMVETS organization in Washington, D.C on Memorial Day. I attended a breakfast at the White House and had my picture taken with President Obama. Afterwards, I attended ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and laid a wreath in honor of our departed veterans.

It was good to be invited to my hometown in my earlier years, Indianapolis, Indiana. We visited Roudebush VA Hospital and visited with the patients. I was also presented with a beautiful plaque.

While visiting Post 99 I had a chance to see the Jr. AMVETS Drill Team perform. What a performance! As we toured the city we visited the historical sites and Stepping Stones. Stepping Stones provides a place to stay for homeless veterans and assist them with life skills programs. They are supported by donations only. If you are looking for a well deserved program please support: Stepping Stones for Veterans Inc., 332 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Anderson, Indiana 46016, (765) 648-1101, Web: <http://www.stepsstonesforvets.org>. Thank you NEC Marcia Adkins!

My trip to Tennessee began with dinner at the Smith Family Theater with PNP/NEC Brenda Kilgore, Department President Annick Moore and other officers which was arranged by PNP/Training Chair Betty Lawson. I attended the Silver Bayonet Awards Presentation which is similar to our Silver Helmet Award. PNP Brenda Kilgore was awarded the Veterans Service Award. Commander Hapner and I were presented the Colonel Aide de Camp Award from Governor Phil Branden presented by Commissioner John Keys. Thank you NEC/PNP Brenda Kilgore!

Again, I had the opportunity to visit Michigan during their state convention. I was very impressed with their Americanism Awards Presentation chaired by Pat Michalski. I also had a chance to spend time with PNP Jan Hapner. She's glad to be home and is recuperating. Thank you NEC Patricia Whitcher!

What a way to end my year of travel in the Department of Alaska! Touring the state by car, boat and private plane was just awesome. It was a relaxing tour for my Local Auxiliary friend Constance Bango and me. We visited the Post, ate lots of food, participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, saw the glaciers, mountains, wild animals and mingled with the members. Thank you NEC Karin Simmons, National Scholarship Officer Leslie Wunderle and other officers!

Kellie, Tonya and Karen thank you for all that you do! I will truly miss our phone calls each day, getting business done and having fun together. I am truly amazed at what the three of you accomplish for our national officers and the membership. Thank you for your dedication!

Thank you to all of the National Officers that I have had the honor of serving with this year. Your friendship, support and hard work will never be forgotten. Much success on your future endeavors.

Thank you to the Past National Presidents! Your past leadership was definitely a guide during my year. Thank you for leading the way and serving as our advisors.

Again, thanks to each of you for electing me and donating towards my national program, Fisher House. This year has given me a lifetime of memories. I have truly been blessed by being a member of AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary. I hope that I have served you well.

We had our National Officers meeting on Saturday. We did not have any recommendations or referrals. National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler introduced the idea of having separate emails for National Officers and NEC's for direct correspondence. I asked her to address the NEC Council with that idea. Emails addresses will end with amvetsaux.org and will be attached to each officers and NEC's name. Thank you."

National First Vice President Patty Piening stated, "My report is on Page 34. The awards are listed and will be handed out on Friday. I have received calls regarding the Local Post AMVETS wanting to mandate that you have to raise your Local dues to meet theirs. Headquarters have gotten your preprint cards out last week. Welcome the first timers. The Membership Committee met on Monday. There were 22 people present. There was a lot of discussion on different ways to promote their membership. If you don't have a computer, please print or write legibly. There was some discussion on the Deceased member form not working on some computers. We had a resolution printed on Page 79, but PNP Betty Lawson will discuss later on. We rejected this resolution and it was not forwarded to the Constitution and ByLaws Committee. Thank you for letting me serve you this year."

National President Charlene Kee introduced Lori Knight Major who introduced a program called "Building Together." This is not a National Program. She is sharing her experience with us.

TAPE ENDED

National Second Vice President Dee Krieling stated, "My report is on Pages 38-48. Congratulations to our outgoing Local and Department Second Vice Presidents for a job well done. Thank you NEC for your complete reports in a timely manner. Youth Volunteers continue to grow in numbers. Their participation in Child Welfare is to be commended. John Tracey Clinic has done well. Our theme this year was "Be A Buddy to a Child." Thank you for all of your hard work in Child Welfare. They are our future. The Child Welfare Committee met on August 10<sup>th</sup>. There was 8 states and 17 members in attendance. We have no recommendations at this time. Thank you Headquarters staff for your assistance this year. Thank you."

National Third Vice President Lynda Taylor stated, "My report is on Pages 46-53. We have truly planted the seeds of community service this year. Our projects are in full bloom. Thank you for all of your wonderful donations to PAWS this year. The Community Service committee met on Monday. Each lady shared a new ideal or project from their Locals or Departments. The committee had no recommendations." Lynda presented certificates to the Auxiliaries that did sponsor Blood Drives. You have made this an outstanding year for me.

As a group, you have done an outstanding job. Thank you Madam President and National Officers for a wonderful year.

National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler stated, "My report can be found on Page 92. On Pages 93-94, you will find the Budget for next year. We had a meeting in July for the development of the Budget. On Pages 95-96, this is the current Budget. As of July 15, we have exceeded our projected income by \$10,616.24. Most of that is due to the dues increase for Life Members. We are well under budget. Please correct under the President's Subtotal is actually \$25,897.13. Please notice that we are over budget with the American Veteran. At the Finance Meeting in July, it was motioned and seconded that the National Auxiliary discontinue participation with the American Veteran magazine. Each issue will have the National President's article. You will see an increase in the National Officers meetings line item. We did not anticipate the baggage charge with the airlines. Page 95A is the Operating Budget that was handed out to you today. The bottom line item, total cash on hand; we stand very, very good financially as an organization. Those funds are tied up in our life trusts or in our flexible savings. We still have concerns with our checking account. When we get below \$100,000, which is usually in the Fall, I watch our finances closely. On Page 97 is the Proposed Budget for Convention 2010. You will notice our staff has had their shirts and name tags. Please also notice our new state signs. Bank of America sent us a letter in May regarding our affinity program stating they would no longer carry this program because we do not generate enough income for them. We have been working with the auditor and the Personal Manual." PNP Susan Sisler brought the membership up to date regarding the personnel issues of Claudette Rahymes and Kathleen. The Finance Committee discussed emails. She stated, "The Webmaster has agreed to set up email addresses for us at no cost that only Auxiliary information will go to. I did present that to the Council of NEC and they were very receptive to that. I will try to put this into effect by September 1." PNP Susan Sisler took a moment of personal privilege to thank everyone for their thoughts and support.

National Americanism Officer Kay Gibbons stated, "My report is Page 60-65. Welcome to our National Convention in beautiful New Orleans, where we will be making decisions, celebrating our accomplishments, and electing our officers for 2009-10. We have our work cut out for us, but I have complete faith that our members can and will endure whatever comes their way. Our members have truly shown that "Americanism, The Heart of Us All" holds true. I applaud each of you for your innovative ideas for fundraising and the abundance of projects you have completed for our Veterans. You have marched in and had floats in parades; attended homecoming programs; helped with funerals for Veterans; donated clothing to Vietnam Vets and a multitude of other Americanism projects. You continue to support our National Programs for Freedoms Foundation and for those who designated your funds for the restoration of the Henry Knox Building have my gratitude. Some Departments continue donations to the Medal of Honor Grove, which is always requiring maintenance. Our new program, Honor Flight, is just getting off the ground but some Departments have adopted it and made donations directly for their State. This is such an outstanding project that I hope you will learn more about it and take it to heart, as this is a truly rewarding way to honor our World War II Veterans as well as those Veterans who are terminally ill. Once the World War II Veterans are served, Honor Flight will move on to Korea, then Vietnam, striving to see to it that all Veterans are able to see the Monuments in their honor in our Nation's Capitol. Your dedication and love of all our Veterans is obvious, and I am convinced that you will continue to excel in all your endeavors. Madam President, Officers, it has been an honor to serve with you. I appreciate your guidance and friendship, and wish each of you continued success, health and happiness. I have been blessed to be amongst you. The Americanism Committee met on Monday. We had discussions regarding a number of Departments that were not taking advantage of sending a youth to the Youth Center at Freedom's Foundation. A 10-12 grade student can be sent at no cost to the Department. The National Service Foundation picks that up. Get names of individuals to National Headquarters by August 31. Please stipulate on your check if you have a certain area at Freedoms Foundation you would like your donation to go to. Honor Flight is becoming more widely known. Funds for the Vest Contest can be collected before Convention, but it will not count towards determining the winner at convention. Attendee donations will determine the winner. Several ideas were discussed on different Americanism projects. Thank you."

National President Charlene Kee recessed until 2:00 pm.

TAPE ENDED

National President Charlene Kee called the meeting to order.

National Scholarship Chairman Leslie Wunderle stated, "My report is on Page 54. I've had a great year. I am pleased with the reports that came in on time. Our evaluations went up this year. We had 2232 volunteers, 18167 hours and a total evaluation \$557,613. The donation report shows \$11,508. This is a great increase from last year. The actual final donation was \$14,508.00. The Scholarship Committee met on Monday. Thank you to the Committee members for attending. The Committee had no recommendations. We had five applicants for Career Start and were able to give each of them one." Leslie listed the \$500, \$750, and \$1,000 scholarship winners. Thank you ladies for all of your help this year."

National Sergeant-At-Arms Sue Dick stated, "My report is on Page 80. Please make sure to wear your name tags everyday. The Pages Committee did have one recommendation that we turned into the Constitution and ByLaws Committee. Thank you."

National Chaplain Linda McGriff stated, My report is on Pages 72-77. Greetings. Thank you to all of the Chaplains for their reports. You have truly worked hard. Thank you to the Headquarters staff for coordinating with me regarding the Deceased list. Please remember that the Deceased Notification Form needs to go to at least two places, the National Chaplain and National Headquarters. Thank you."

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson stated, "My report is on Page 78. This year has been a difficult year. There has been a lot of unease within some of our Locals and Departments. I'm hoping at that this Convention, most of those problems have been resolved. Printed in the Convention Book is a resolution I received from the Department of North Carolina. Please correct that we do have 100% of our Departments with updated ByLaws at this time. Please change NJ, VA, GA, IA, and OR to read 2009. Thank you for getting those to me. The Constitution and ByLaws Committee met. The room was full. The resolution from the Department of NC was rejected in Committee. The issue regarding the standing rules and the dress code, there was a recommendation from the Pages Committee pertaining to dress code to read, "Shorts, skirts no shorter than 2 inches above the knee, tops with spaghetti straps and tank tops with low necklines are not permitted on the meeting room floor. Jeans without holes and that are not frayed are only permitted on Department Tshirt days. Kapris are permitted on the meeting floor." PNP Betty Lawson motioned to accept this change to the standing rules. NEC Jeanine Reznik, OH seconded. After some discussion regarding jeans and kapti's, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson gave the first reading of the following Resolutions and Recommendations:

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson stated, "Please add and she would be an elected Hospital Officer and Article 4, add The Freedom's Foundation Seminar. As far as the Hospital Officer position, it is on the National Level only. The Department may follow if they so wish, but they do not have to. They are elected for a one year term. Thank you to all 93 people that attended Training. It shows that you want to learn to about our organization. The Leadership Training in Pigeon Forge was a great success. Forms for this year are available. We need all monies by the end of December. Our theme this year is "Working Together Works." We will have a dinner and shoes. The cost is the same as last year, \$150. Thank you to everyone that has helped me this year. Thank you."

National Hospital Chairman Dottie Wustrow stated, "My report is on Pages 66-71. You should be proud of the volunteer work you all do. Thank you to the Office Staff for all of their help. Thank you to Madam President and National Officers. The Hospital Committee met on Monday. We had a successful meeting. We have no recommendations at this time. Thank you."

National VAVS Representative Sylvia Rowland stated, "What a good year this has been. The National Officers have been outstanding. My report is on Page 85. Annual Joint Reviews are due each September. They can be done in person, by phone, mail, or email. We now have 89 reps and 98 deputies."

TAPE ENDED

Sylvia continued, "On Page 87, there is a list of Joint Annual Reviews received. We had several in attendance at the National VAVS meeting in Houston, TX. Our donation to the James Parke Scholarship was \$3,574.00." Sylvia gave an update on the VAVS data and records. I would like to figure out a way for this office to receive more help from the Departments. Thank you."

NEC President PNP Brenda Kilgore stated, "The Council of NEC met on Monday evening. We had 23 NEC's in attendance. The Council has no recommendations at this time. The new Council of NEC President is Margie Rabb, NC." Brenda presented Madam President with a letter from President Obama and a Lifetime Achievement Pin.

National President Charlene Kee called for NEC reports.

Department of FL, NEC Gloria Jasinski stated, "My report is on Page 100. We are going to be very happy to have Madam President home." Gloria introduced Department President Doleres Baggett, who extended greetings.

Department of OH, NEC Jeannine Reznik stated, "OH has had another busy year. We raised over \$5000 for Honor Flight this year. Please support Kay Gibbons for the office of National Third Vice President and Patty Piening for National President." Jeannine introduced Department President Barbara Valley, who extended greetings.

Department of AK, NEC Karin Simmons stated, "Greetings from Alaska. My report is on Page 99. This year we had several visits from National Officers. We would appreciate your support for Leslie Wunderle for the office of National Third Vice President." Karin introduced the outgoing Department President Terri King and the incoming Department President Shari Fulton.

Department of AZ, NEC Sheila Jackson Atchinson stated, "We are sorry Madam President was unable to visit our Department." Sheila introduced Department President Denise Campbell.

Department of CA, NEC Irene Tellez stated, "My report is on Page 100. It was a slow start, but things are getting better. I wish for a successful Convention."

Department of GA, NEC Lori Williams stated, "Beth's report is on Page 101." Lori introduced outgoing Department President Eloise Brandon and incoming Department President Etta J. Wright.

Department of IL, NEC Norma Studebaker stated, "My report is on Pages 101-102. We had a fantastic reporting year with our totals all up. Please support for PNP Susan Sisler as National Treasurer." Norma introduced outgoing Department President Leslie Nell and incoming Department President Elsie Ferlidge.

Department of IN, NEC Marcia Adkins stated, "Thank you Madam President for visiting." Marcia introduced Department President Kim Newton, who extended greetings.

Department of IA, NEC Kathy Berning stated, "My report is on Page 103." Kathy introduced Department President Karen Miller, who stated, "Please support Kathy Berning for National Americanism Officer."

Department of KS, NEC Peggy Miller stated, "We did lose one Auxiliary this year. I apologize for not having a timely report. Thank you."

Department of KY, NEC Joyce Finn stated, "My report is on Page 103. Greetings from the Commonwealth of KY. We have had a great year with Membership. We are hosting the 2010 National Convention. We are selling KY night tickets and Banquet tickets at this Convention." Joyce introduced Department President Maryetta Durham.

Department of LA, NEC Nancy Taylor stated, "My report is on Page 104. Thank you Headquarters for their help. It's been a little rocky this year." Nancy introduced Department President Delores Reese.

Department of Maine, NEC PNP Rita Potvin stated, "My report is misprinted in the book. My report is as follows: The Department of Maine has been in total disarray for the past three years due to lack of leadership, no Department Secretary, no communication with Local Auxiliaries or between Officers, and no types of mailings. Add to this complete disregard for policy and procedure, officer procedures, no voucher system, no receipts to augment disbursements, checks for not deposited for months, membership not processed in a timely manner and disregard for Bylaw mandates. All of which continued until our January 2009 SEC meeting when everything fell apart. Past officers were contacted immediately and within weeks all offices were filled, our files and office equipment located and an Executive Secretary appointed. As this is being written, we believe our membership may be slightly below that of last year. Our 6 Auxiliaries have filed outstanding service program reports, candidates have announced for office, procedures, and bylaws are being enforced, finances and membership processed correctly and mailings. As this is being written, we believe our membership may be slightly below that of last year. Our 6 Auxiliaries have filed outstanding service program reports, candidates have announced for office, procedures and bylaws are being enforced, finances and membership processed correctly, and mailings and minutes have been published. Our 57<sup>th</sup> Department Convention was held in June and we look forward to the future. At no time has the Department of Maine considered giving up its Charter. We may only have 6 Auxiliaries with no avenue for new organizations but they are hard working units and for the most part are supportive of the Department. Best wishes for a constructive Convention. Rita introduced Department President Judy Tobin, who extended greetings.

Department of MD, NEC Matha Knott stated, "I apologize Madam President was unable to visit." Martha introduced Department President Linda Huffman.

Department of MA, NEC Marie Rorrio stated, "We wish you a successful Convention. My report is on Page 105." Marie introduced Department President Beverly Studebaker.

Department of MI, NEC Pat Witcher stated, "My report is on Page 106.

TAPE ENDED

Department of NE, Dept. Secretary Karen Christner stated, "NEC Jane Nelson is here for her first Convention and our Department President is Darla Parker. We lost our largest Auxiliary at Lincoln, NE. We were able to retain our Department. We struggle to get our Auxiliaries to report. We will continue to work as hard as we can. Thank you."

Department of NY, NEC Jane DeSanctis stated, "Rose Mary's report is on Page 107. We have Dottie Wustrow running for National Scholarship. Please support her. Thank you."

Department of NC, NEC Margie Rabb stated, "Greetings from North Carolina." Margie introduced outgoing Dept. President Eva Craver and incoming President Pat Pulliam. "I am sorry Madam President did not make it to NC. Thank you."

Department of ND, NEC Karla Maddock stated, "My report is on Page 108. Thank you."

Department of OR, NEC Colleen Stover stated, "I apologize for the lack of a report in the book. Our last NEC passed away mid year."

Department of PA, NEC Shelby Rhodes stated, "My report is on Pages 109-110. We have a good year under Department President Vivian Showers. Members are working hard to support Veterans in our community. We have Delia Krieling will be running for National First Vice. Please give her your support. Thank you." Shelby introduced Department First Vice Debbie Beaston, who extended greetings.

Department of SC, NEC PNP Mary Barrow stated, "My report is on Page 110. We have a had a fairly good year. Since NEC, our nursing home care unit has been redone. We now have a hospice unit as well. Thank you."

Department of TN, NEC PNP Brenda Kilgore stated, "Greetings from TN. My report is on Page 111." Brenda introduced Department President Annick Moore, who extended greetings.

Department of TX, NEC Jackie McFalls stated, "Our service foundation awarded three separate \$1000 scholarships and the John W Gore Memorial Outstanding Female ROTC \$1000 scholarship. My report is on Page 111 and was written by outgoing NEC Sharron Gore who is our newly elected Department President. Please support Linda McGriff in running for National Chaplain. Thank you."

Department of VA, NEC Barbara Johnson stated, "My report is on Page 112. Our Community Service total is incorrect. It should be \$222,615. We do a lot in Americanism." Barbara introduced outgoing Department President Barbara Tyler and our new Department President Peggy Santuk.

Department of WA, NEC Betty Schleich stated, "My report is on Page 112. Thank you."

Department of WV, NEC Irene Smith stated, "I apologize that we did not have a report for the book. We will have one next time. Thank you."

Department of WI, NEC Joan Sirek stated, "My report is on Page 113. We had a very good year in service to Veterans. We are proud to have two candidates running for National Office; Lynda Taylor for National Second Vice and Marvell Ruppel for National Sergeant At Arms. We would appreciate your consideration and support. Thank you." Joan introduced Department President Lynn Beck, who extended greetings.

National President called for reports from Unchartered States.

National Chaplain Linda McGriff gave the Benediction.

National President Charlene Kee adjourned the meeting for the day.

**AMVETS NATIONAL LADIES AUXILIARY  
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MINUTES**

**Thursday, August 13, 2009**

National Chaplain Lynda McGriff the Invocation.

National Sergeant-At-Arms Sue Dick presented the Colors.

National Sergeant-At Arms Sue Dick led The Pledge of Allegiance.

National Executive Administrator Kellie Haggerty read roll call.

District of Columbia, Paulette Whiteside stated, "Hello to everyone. We do have pins for DC. Thank you."

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson read the second reading of the Constitution and ByLaws Resolutions.

Resolution 1 was defeated in the Constitution and ByLaws Committee meeting.

Resolution 2 from the National Executive Board and this was referred to the Constitution and ByLaws Committee at the NEC meeting. The change would be in the National Constitution, Article 10 Section 1 to be elected to a one year term, Hospital Officer. Delete sentence 2 – The Hospital Chairman will be appointed in the odd years. We would add to Article 10 Section 1 Hospital Officer effective 2011. This would also change your ByLaws under Article 3 Officers Section 7 change term from Hospital Chairman to Hospital Officer. This will not effect the budget and would change her to a member of the Executive Committee. PNP Betty Lawson moved to adopt this recommendation. Seconded by Patty Piening, OH. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Resolution 3 – Recommendation from the Finance Committee to increase the term of office of the Treasurer from one year to two year effective 2009 Convention. Reason is that our organization is a major business and the Treasure is an important position and stability is necessary. The first year is a learning year and the second year would benefit the organization. Under Constitution Article 10 Officers Section 1 after Treasurer, we would add a two year term. Please write in on Page 6, Article 3 Duties of Officers Section 5, Treasurer. Add a new G – she shall have served one year on the National Finance Committee to be eligible to be a candidate for National Treasurer. PNP Betty Lawson moved for the adoption for this change. NEC Jeannine Reznik, OH seconded. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

PNP Susan Sisler moved to amend it read G-she shall have served two years on the National Finance Committee to be eligible to be a candidate for National Treasurer. PNP Carol King, IL seconded. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Recommendation 4 – From the Council of NEC, recommend that the Americanism Program, The Freedom's Foundation Seminar be suspended for three years and after three years be reevaluated to determine whether to reinstate the program. This is due to the cost and the lack of attendance. This would delete the last line under the group on Freedoms Foundation in the Manual. PNP Betty Lawson moved for the adoption. NEC Gloria Jasinski, FL seconded. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

National President Charlene Kee introduced John Tracy Clinic's Ann McNally provided a presentation.

TAPE ENDED

National President Charlene Kee presented JTC with a check for \$27112.49.

National President Charlene Kee introduced St. Jude's and their family who extended greetings and gave thanks.

National President Charlene Kee presented St. Jude's with a check for \$24,698.32.

National President Charlene Kee introduced Freedom Foundations who gave remarks and extended warm greetings.

National President Charlene Kee introduced John Chad Hapner, AMVETS National Commander and Jim King, AMVETS National Executive Director who thanked the Auxiliary for all of their hard work and for a great year. Gifts were exchanged.

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson continued with the Recommendations.

Recommendation 5 – At standing rule was added at Spring NEC. It was a recommendation from the Council of NEC and voted by the NEC body. It was to add Standing Rule #7. I would like to recommend that we now delete standing rule #7 and add it to the National ByLaws, Article 4, NEC Committee Women, Section 1, C – deadline dates as published by Headquarters. Then we would add be due by February 1 and June 30. All reports submitted after that day will not be included in the NEC Book or the National Convention Book. I move to adopt this change. National First Vice Patty Piening seconded. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Recommendation 6 – Under Discipline in your ByLaws. Article 12, Section 1, to add an H: Charges can not be filed on any level based on hearsay. PNP Betty Lawson moved to add this. Seconded by National Third Vice President Delia Krieling. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Section 2a – we want to add all charges and specifications should be filed in writing and add at no point later than 30 days of occurrence/discovery. PNP Betty Lawson moved for the adoption of this phrase. Seconded by National Lynda Taylor. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Please add a T- The appeals board must be provided with relevant materials pertaining to the charges filed and the decision rendered by the grievance committee. PNP Betty Lawson moved to add Letter T. Seconded by Leslie Wunderle, AK. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

TAPE ENDED

The next page is correct. On the following page, Rights of Appeal, we were going to add to Q a sentence saying The decision of the Appeals Committee can be overturned/confirmed the decision of the Grievance Committee. Then we were going to R: The decision of the National Appeals Procedure shall be binding and final and the specific can not be refilled on any level. PNP Betty Lawson moved to add Q and R. National Chaplain Linda Taylor seconded. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

On the last page, under National Level, First Paragraph, add to that sentence “and specific charges can be refilled on any level.” PNP Betty Lawson moved to adopt this addition. It was seconded by National Scholarship Chairman Kay Gibbons. After calling for discussion and hearing none, National President Charlene Kee called for the question.

**MOTION CARRIED**

The last recommendation was covered in the Standing Rule that was voted on yesterday.

PNP Bonnie Scott, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, stated, “We met Tuesday afternoon and had 16 PNP’s in attendance. The Humanitarian Award Winner is Mike White from NC. He started Camp Hope and place for soldiers to come back to and rest and relax. We do not have any recommendations at this time.”

National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler presented the first reading of the Proposed 2009-2010 Budget.

Various announcements were made.

National Chaplain Linda McGriff gave the Benediction.

National President Charlene Kee adjourned the meeting for the day.

**AMVETS NATIONAL LADIES AUXILIARY  
2009 NATIONAL CONVENTION  
MINUTES**

**Friday, August 14, 2009**

National Chaplain Lynda McGriff gave the Invocation.

National Sergeant-At-Arms Sue Dick presented the Colors.

National Sergeant-At Arms Sue Dick led The Pledge of Allegiance.

National Executive Administrator Kellie Haggerty read roll call.

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson read Election Rules.

Madam President opened nominations for First Vice President.

NEC Shelby Rhodes, PA nominated Delia D. Krieling for National First Vice President. PNP Betty Lawson seconded the nomination.

National President Charlene Kee called for any other nominations for National First Vice President. After hearing none, she closed nominations.

National President Charlene Kee opened nominations for National Second Vice President.

Joan Sirek, WI nominated Linda Taylor for National Second Vice President. NEC PNP Brenda Kilgore seconded the nomination.

National President Charlene Kee called for any other nominations for National Second Vice President. After hearing none, she closed nominations.

National President Charlene Kee opened nominations for National Third Vice President.

NEC Jeannine Reznik, OH nominated Kay Gibbons for National Third Vice President. PNP Sylva Lipowski, NY seconded the nomination.

National President Charlene Kee called for any other nominations for National Third Vice President. After hearing none, she closed nominations.

NEC Karin Simmons, AK nominated Leslie Wunderle for National Third Vice President. PNP Heidi Dineen seconded the nomination.

National President Charlene Kee opened nominations for National Treasurer.

PNP Carol King nominated PNP Susan Sisler for National Treasurer. Leslie Nell, IL seconded the nomination.

National President Charlene Kee called for any other nominations for National Treasurer. After hearing none, she closed nominations.

National President Charlene Kee opened nominations for National Americanism Officer.

PDP Nancy Kemp nominated Kathy Berning for National Americanism Officer. PNP Betty Lawson seconded the nomination.

National President Charlene Kee called for any other nominations for National Americanism Officer. After hearing none, she closed nominations.

National President Charlene Kee opened nominations for National Scholarship Officer.

PNP Sylvia Lipowski, NY nominated Dorothy Wustrow for National Scholarship Officer. PNP Carol King, IL seconded the nomination.

National President Charlene Kee called for any other nominations for National Scholarship. After hearing none, she closed nominations.

National President Charlene Kee opened nominations for National Chaplain.

PNP Sandye Aultman nominated Linda McGriff for National Chaplain. PNP Brenda Kilgore seconded the nomination.

National President Charlene Kee called for any other nominations for National Chaplain. After hearing none, she closed nominations.

National President Charlene Kee opened nominations for National Sergeant-At-Arms.

NEC Joan Sirek, WI nominated Marvell Ruppel for National Sergeant-At-Arms. PNP Rita Potvin seconded the nomination.

National President Charlene Kee called for any other nominations for National Sergeant-At-Arms. After hearing none, she closed nominations.

National President Charlene Kee opened nominations for National President.

NEC Jeannine Reznik, OH nominated Patty A. Piening for National President. NEC Karin Simmons, AK seconded the nomination.

National President Charlene Kee handed the gavel over to National First Vice President Patty A. Piening so she could leave the floor.

National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler read the second reading of the 2009 - 2010 Proposed Budget.

National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler moved to approve the proposed Income at \$442,200. Seconded by Linda McGriff, TX. National First Vice President Patty Piening asked for the discussion. After hearing none, she called for the question.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler moved to approve the proposed Headquarter Expenses at \$197,465. Seconded by inaudible. Kay Morgan, NC stated, "With the economy the way it is, I do not feel the Headquarters Staff should not receive a raise." PNP Susan Sisler stated, "Staff was given minimal cost of living raises. One employee did receive a one time increase to bring her salary up to even with other employees. Bonus is decided by what is left in the line item and it is at the discretion of the National President. National First Vice President Patty Piening asked for further discussion. After hearing none, she called for the question.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler moved to approve the proposed National President Expenses at \$37,000. Seconded inaudible. National First Vice President Patty A. Piening asked for discussion. After hearing none, she called for the question.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler moved to approve the proposed National Officers Expenses at \$47,900. Seconded by PNP Carol King, IL. National First Vice President Patty A. Piening asked for the discussion. After hearing none, she called for the question.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler moved to approve the proposed Programs/Services Expenses at \$11,500. Seconded by audible National First Vice President Patty A. Piening asked for the discussion. After hearing none, she called for the question. **MOTION APPROVED**

National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler moved to approve the proposed Publications Expenses at \$50,000. Seconded by NEC PNP Brenda Kilgore, TN. National First Vice President Patty A. Piening asked for the discussion. After hearing none, she called for the question. **MOTION APPROVED**

National Treasurer PNP Susan Sisler moved to approve the proposed Miscellaneous Expenses at \$1,250. Seconded by inaudible. National First Vice President Patty A. Piening asked for the discussion. After hearing none, she called for the question. **MOTION APPROVED**

TAPE ENDED

National First Vice President Patty Piening introduced Sons of AMVETS Commander Ben Haynes who extended greetings.

National First Vice President Patty Piening introduced Executive Director, Jody Shiflet of the Outreach Assistance and Disability of OIF OEF Troops, who gave a presentation and extended greetings.

TAPE ENDED

There was some discussion on the new criteria for the Finance Committee and National Treasurer. PNP Betty Lawson, National Parliamentarian helped clear up some questions.

Joanne Harshberger, OH moved to reconsider the vote on the Treasurer. I would like to recommend voting for one individual from this meeting floor to the Finance Committee. This person is not to be a PNP or NEC and it would be for a one year term. This would be an added individual along with the post SEC person. PNP Rita Potvin, ME seconded. After much discussion, it was decided to refer this to the Finance Committee for amendment.

National President Charlene Kee recognized First Timers.

National President Charlene Kee introduced Deb Davis from PAWS and their guest who gave greetings and a presentation.

TAPE ENDED.

National President Charlene Kee presented PAWS with a donation of 36,520.89.

National President Charlene Kee introduced Cleve Geer, President, AMVETS National Service Foundation and Executive Director, Joseph Piening for their remarks.

National Chaplain Linda McGriff gave the Benediction.

National President Charlene Kee adjourned the meeting for the day.

Department Caucuses were held.

**AMVETS NATIONAL LADIES AUXILIARY  
2009 NATIONAL CONVENTION  
MINUTES**

**Saturday, August 15, 2009**

National Chaplain Lynda McGriff gave the Invocation.

National Sergeant-At-Arms Sue Dick presented the Colors.

National Sergeant-At Arms Sue Dick led The Pledge of Allegiance.

National Executive Administrator Kellie Haggerty read roll call.

National Parliamentarian PNP Betty Lawson read the Election Rules.

National First Vice President Patty Piening presented Madam President with a gift on behalf of the National Officers.

PNP National Honor and Awards Committee Chairman Carol King stated, "Yesterday was a huge success and a lot of fun. My report is on Page 82. The winners list should be passed out. The Honors and Awards Committee on Sunday. Job well done to all those that submitted entries. This is the last year the Janet St. Michel and the Dottie Stoddard will be presenting their membership awards. Approval was given at the by the Board at the Officers Meeting to have these awards presented by the National Organization beginning at the 2010 Convention. The Committee recommends giving a monetary award rather than a plaque for the membership and blood drive winners. The reasoning behind this is that many locals do not have a place where they display the plaque and the money would be used for the ensuing years project. There will be no additional costs to National since the monies is already allocated in the budget for the plaques." PNP Carol moved for this recommendation. Kay Gibbons, OH seconded. National President Charlene Kee asked for discussion. After hearing none, she called for the question.

**MOTION APPROVED**

Carol continued, "The National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President currently prepares thank yous for all JTC donations and certificates for donations from \$30 - \$499. The Committee recommends for consistency, the National Second Vice President will no longer will do these certificates and only certificates issued by JTC will be presented. PNP Carol King moved to accept this recommendation. PNP Sandye Aultman, TX seconded. National President Charlene Kee asked for discussion. After hearing none, she called for the question.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National History and Scrapbook Chairman Mary Ann Barnes stated. "Please look at the guidelines for the National History and Scrapbooks, so we don't have turn any away. Thank you."

Evelyn McElvin, President's Scrapbook stated, "Madam President I apologize your book is not complete. I went by your agenda. Please send in any pictures you may have. Thank you."

National Parliamentarian reread the motion from yesterday, "I would like to recommend voting for one individual from this meeting floor to the Finance Committee. This person is not to be a PNP or NEC and it would be for a one year term. This would be an added individual along with the post SEC person. I know we were talking about the Finance Committee but nowhere did it say that.. PNP Betty Lawson motioned to have this motion tabled and referred to the Finance Committee for funding and tabled until the 2010 Convention until better judgment can be made for our organization. Seconded by Leslie Wunderle. National President Charlene Kee asked for discussion. After hearing none, she called for the question.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National Immediate Past National President Heidi Dineen read Credentials and voting strength was counted.

National President Charlene Kee re-opened the nomination of National First Vice President. After hearing no discussion, National President Charlene Kee declared Dee Krieling National First Vice President.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National President Charlene Kee re-opened the nomination of National Second Vice President. After hearing no discussion, she called for the question. Lynda Taylor was declared National Second Vice President.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National President Charlene Kee re-opened the nomination of National Third Vice President. A vote was taken and Leslie Wunderle was voted as National Third Vice President.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National President Charlene Kee re-opened the nomination of National Treasurer. After hearing no discussion shed called for the question. PNP Susan Sisler was elected National Treasurer.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National President Charlene Kee re-opened the nomination of National Americanism Officer. After hearing no discussion shed called for the question. Kathy Berning was elected National Americanism Officer..

**MOTION APPROVED**

National President Charlene Kee re-opened the nomination of National Scholarship Officer. After hearing no discussion shed called for the question. Dottie Wustrow was elected National Scholarship Officer.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National President Charlene Kee re-opened the nomination of National Chaplain. After hearing no discussion shed called for the question. Linda McGriff was elected National Chaplain.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National President Charlene Kee re-opened the nomination of National Hospital Chairman. After hearing no discussion shed called for the question. Sue Dick was elected National Scholarship Officer.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National President Charlene Kee re-opened the nomination of National Sergeant-At-Arms. After hearing no discussion shed called for the question. Marvell Ruppel was elected National Scholarship Officer.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National President Charlene Kee re-opened the nomination of National President. After hearing no discussion shed called for the question. Patty A. Piening was elected National President.

**MOTION APPROVED**

National Chaplain Linda McGriff gave the Benediction.

National Sergeant-At-Arms Sue Dick retired the colors.

National President Charlene D. Kee closed the 2009 National Convention.