

## AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY

### DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

#### SEC MARCH 2024

\*\*9am- Joint opening ceremony was held, lead by Dept Commander Joe Ashman. Commander and Presidents were introduced for the Sons, Auxiliary, and Riders. National Officers Joe Chenelly, Executive Director for AMVETS, Martin Bugaj, National Deputy Judge Advocate and Amy Stopyra, National Auxiliary President, introduced.\*\*

930am Auxiliary meeting brought to order by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Janell Ashman. Madam President “Chickie” unable to attend due to recent surgery. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Debi Feary excused due to prior commitments. Madam President appointed Janell to lead the meeting.

National Auxiliary President Amy Stopyra from PA escorted into mtg and introduced to membership.

Invocation given by Chaplain Mary Gilbert

Pledge of Allegiance led by Sgt at Arms Josephine Pearl.

Preamble recited by 2 VP Janell Ashman

Code of Ethics read by Parliamentarian PDP Laura Bugaj

Aims and Purposes read by 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Janell Ashman

Definition of Americanism read by Americanism Officer PDP Rosalee Waid

Introduction of PDPs – by Janell Ashman Present were: PDP Mary Lanphere, PDP Rosalee Waid, PDP Shirley Sochia, PDP Cindy Queyor, PDP Donna Smith

Roll Call of Officers: All present with exception of President Linda “Chickie” George (excused), 1<sup>st</sup> VP Debi Feary (excused), PRO Dawn Flavin (excused), VAVS PDP Candace Clemens, excused

Roll Call of Auxs’- Present, 001, 004, 008,014, 018, 072, 245, 262, 265, 726, 897, 8113

Introduction of 1<sup>st</sup> time attendees – Welcome to Marie Marshall, Aux 004, Carol Gold, Aux 001

Phone Call made to Madam President “Chickie” who thanked members for their continued work.

1<sup>st</sup> VP (Debi Feary) report given by Janell Ashman for Debi. Thank you to everyone who got their memberships in on time. 61 new members, 650 renewals, 12 re joins, 14 renew to life, 3 new life, 6 honorary. These totals do not include life memberships. CHAIRMANS AWARD- Aux that has the brightest idea to increase membership. Application for this award will be found in the Honors and Award packet, your Auxiliary will be receiving in the near future. Please contact me if you have any questions about membership.

Membership Committee met on Friday, led by Janell Ashman for Debi Feary. Thank you to members who participated in discussion. Cindy Queyor PDP Aux 8, Penny Wickwire Aux 265, Brenda Foster Aux 245, Vikki Keech Aux 245, Joyce Turner Aux 245, Sur Gardner PDP Aux 4, Josephine Pearl Aux

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18. Discussion Re: membership awards. Will keep Aux signing up the most new members, and Auxs' will 100% renewals by Dec 31<sup>st</sup>.

2<sup>nd</sup> VP Janell Ashman- SEE ATTACHED REPORT

3<sup>rd</sup> VP Vikki Keech- SEE ATTACHED REPORT

Secretary/ Conv Chair Mary Lanphere PDP. Thank you to everyone sending in memberships on time. Registration for Dept Convention will be mailed shortly. Due to increase in supplies and postage, **Motion to increase registration from 25.00 to 30.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by PDP Donna Smith, M/C** Housing forms for Dept Convention handed out, will be on websites, and mailed out to each Auxiliary. Please take note when forms are due to Hotel. If attending Commander's Dinner, and you have a preference who to sit with, make note of it on the form, and the Post/Aux #, as I do not recognize some names. **Dinner selections are as follows: Beef- seared filet mignon, w potato gratin, seasoned veggies..... Chix- marinated chix breast w truffeled mac n cheese, seasonen veggies, caramelized shallot sauce..... Fish- sloe Florentine, w saffron lobster cream, spinach, caramelized shallot, saffron orzo pilaf, season veggies..... Vegetarian- grilled vegetable crostata, grilled eggplant, peppers, squash, caramelized onion, flaky pastry crust, tri colored quinoa pilaf.** Coffee will be available during dinner. Dessert- triple chocolate mousse cake. Cocktail hour 1 hr before dinner w beer, wine, cheese , crackers. President's luncheon will remain a buffet, menu may change due to the possibility of the AMVETS having a "Pig Roast BBQ" on Friday.

Auxiliaries MUST have their revalidation forms to me by June 1<sup>st</sup> to be seated at Convention. Be sure page #2 is COMPLETELY filled out. PLEASE NOTE: A Post Commander cannot install your Auxiliary Officers. It must be a Past President, Past Dept President. Be sure to include a copy of the ACCEPTED 990. Revalidation forms can be found on the National Auxiliary website. Please call me with any questions.

Treasurer's report- Dept's 990 has been filed for this year. SEE ATTACHED REPORT. **Motion made by PDP Mary Lanphere to make donation to National Auxiliary President's Project (National Foster Parent Asso) of 2,000.00. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vikki Keech, M/C. Motion by PDP Shirley Sochia to donate 200.00 to each of the National Auxiliary Programs, 2<sup>nd</sup> by PDP Mary Lanphere, M/C.** Auxiliary funds have been switched to Community Bank. Financial paperwork requested by AMVETS has been delivered to them. As a reminder, always make checks out to AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, Dept of NY, always have 2 signatures on checks.

PRO/Hist (Dawn Flavin) Vikki Keech reporting for Dawn. Please be sure to send any photos. A reminder that we will be having a basket raffle at Dept Convention. Each Auxiliary requested to bring a basket/item for the auction.

Parliamentarian- PDP Laura Rose Bugaj. Update ByLaws and Standing Rules. Article IV, Section 7, change 250.00 to 300.00.

By Laws still due before Convention from, Aux #1, #38, #76, #219, #262, #282, #2000, # 8113. Please get these to me in a timely fashion.

Keep in mind the second point in our Code of Ethics. It will save you and your Auxiliary a lot of headaches,

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As Auxiliary members, we should not be meddling in, or attempting to dominate AMVETS affairs, including within our canteens.

From the By Laws Committee- thank you to the committee, PDP Mary Lanphere, PDP Rosalee Waid, PDP Donna Smith, Maria Pelletier. By Laws cannot be changed at this meeting, however, changes may be introduced, and presented a 2<sup>nd</sup> time at Convention to be voted on. With this in mind, it was discussed to change Article 2, Section 5a, from “All elected and appointed Dept Officers shall have a vote” to “All elected Officers shall have a vote.” The full resolution will be drawn up and presented at Convention.

Motion made by PDP Laura Rose Bugaj to change Standing Rule #1 to 6 night hotel cost. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jessica Winstel, M/C

Sgt at Arms- Josephine Pearl- SEE ATTACHED REPORT

Americanism- PDP Rosalee Waid- SEE ATTACHED REPORT. Freedoms Foundation has merged with the Union League Legacy Foundation, and is now called “Founding Forward”. PDP Laura Bugaj suggests we consider sponsoring a 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade student to attend the “Spirit of America Youth Conference.”

Hospital- Michelle Hayes- SEE ATTACHED REPORT also SEE ATTACHED REPORT for VAVS PDP Candace Clemens report given by Michelle.

VAVS Northport- SEE ATTACHED REPORT

NEC- PDP Donna Smith- SEE ATTACHED REPORT. I will not be able to attend the Spring NEC mtg, Janell Ashman will stand in for me. National Awards from August 2023 handed out to Auxs’.

Chaplain/Scholarship- Mary Gilbert. Motion made by Mary Gilbert to donate the old candles from our Memorial Service to a Church that would like them, 2<sup>nd</sup> by PDP Mary Lanphere, M/C. Motion made by Mary Gilbert, to increase the number of PDP Rose Baldwin Memorial Scholarships to 2, (1) 500.00, (1) 250.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by PDP Mary Lanphere. After discussion by membership, motion amended to read, Increase the number of PDP Rose Baldwin Memorial Scholarships to two 500.00 winners if Aux funds allows. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doris Allen, M/C

100.00 advance to Joyce Turner for Dept Hat Raffle fundraiser

Vikki Keech reported the “Saran Ball” fundraiser held Friday made 330.00. To be deposited into General Fund.

Lottery Report by Janell Ashman for Debi Feary- SEE ATTACHED REPORT

Aux #18 reports not receiving “Aux of the Year” plaque for 2022.

Post # 370, Mexico, NY, is interested in starting an Auxiliary

Dept Commander Joe Ashman’s Testimonial dinner is April 13<sup>th</sup>, more info on website.

Dept Convention shirts can be ordered through Dept Commander

Motion to pay bills by PDD Shirley Sochia, 2<sup>nd</sup> by PDP Susan Gardner, M/C

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Closing Prayer by Chaplain Mary Gilbert

Flag Salute by Sgt at Arms Josephine Pearl

Motion to close meeting by PDP Donna Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> by PDP Shirley Sochia, M/C

50/50 125.00 to Dept, 125.00 to winner.

Respectfully submitted

*Mary A Lanphere*