

**AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA
MINUTES-FEBRUARY SEC 2022**

Friday February 18, 2022 First Business Session

Call to order by Madam President, Debbie Beck at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation of Colors by Sgt. At Arms Toni Plemmons

Invocation by Chaplain Wendy Luzader

Pledge of Allegiance by Sgt. At Arms Toni Plemmons

Preamble read by 1st Vice President PNP Patty Piening

Aims & Purposes read by 2nd Vice President Holly Burbach

Code of Ethics read by 3rd Vice President Chrissy Albright

Definition of Americanism read by American Officer Dawn Stewart

Madam President, Debbie Beck: Madam President Welcomes all to mid-year SEC , happy to see all , hoped all have a productive, busy weekend and little bit of fun too. If you need anything from anyone of officers please don't be afraid to come up and talk to all of us.

Roll Call of Officers by Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau.

Approval of Agenda by 1st Vice President, PNP Patty Piening, moved to approve the agenda, seconded by 2nd Vice President Holly Burbach, no discussion MOTION CARRIED

Benediction by Chaplin Wendy Luzader

Respect of Colors by Sgt At Arms Toni Plemmons

Recess until tomorrow 8:30 am

Saturday February 19, 2022 Second Business Session

President Debbie Beck called the Second Business Session for the February 2022 SEC to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone

Invocation by Chaplain Wendy Luzader

Pledge of Allegiance by Sgt. At Arms Toni Plemmons

Roll Call of Officers by Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau

Minutes of the February 2021 SEC were read by Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau. Robin Trudeau moved for the approval of the minutes as read and published, seconded by Dawn Stewart, discussion to amend in a Motion (Paragraph) of Auxiliary of the year Award that Holly Burbach to read 2nd Vice President instead of 3rd Vice President. MOTION CARRIED

E-board Recommendation read by Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau moved to have Executive Secretary return the bank check scanner, not be used, to Bank of America within 7 days after February 2021 SEC to eliminate monthly rental charge. Seconded by 2nd Vice President Holly Burbach, no discussion, MOTION CARRIED

Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau moved to purchase an ALL IN ONE PRINTER for the Treasurer, not to exceed \$250.00. 2nd Vice President Holly Burbach, Alternate NEC Jerry Devoll and PNP 1st Vice President Patty Piening will be getting quotes. Seconded by PNP Patty Piening, no discussion, MOTION CARRIED

Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau moved that PRO Carolyn Bain to turn in all Cannon digital Camera equipment listed in June Convention book as new camera recently purchased , seconded by 3rd Vice President Chrissy Albright, no discussion, MOTION CARRIED

Disposal of Display case, due to the top is broken, it was listed in the Quartermasters inventory. Seconded by 1st Vice president PNP Patty Piening, no discussion MOTION CARRIED

Finance Report read by Treasurer PDP Karen Powers, her report is on page 19-22, On these pages you will see the balance sheet thru 12/31/2021 & the profit & loss thru 12/31/2021.

Last month we had two CD's #1837 & 1866 come up for renewal and roll over with new maturity date of 8/7/2022, also the tow CD's #9222 & 9280 roll over with the new maturity date of

8/12/2022. The finance committee met on Thursday and heard request for budget changes for upcoming Proposed Budgets in June. I would like to thank the committee members PNP 1st Vice Patty Piening, 2nd Vice President Holly Burbach & Alternate NEC Jerry Devoll for all their work. Wished Madam President a successful SEC.

Audit Committee Report by PNP Patty Piening advised they audited the books. No recommendation at this time.

Introductions of 1st Timers by Gaveliers President PDP Sherry Marecek, escorted by the Gaveliers

Aux.# 4 Nancy Griffin, Tawanda Peoples, Christie Smith, **Aux. #8** Beverly Gardner, **Aux. #26** Elke Bergsten, Tara Dean, **Aux. #32** Cherie Trubiano, **Aux. #60** Kim Walters, **Aux. #422** Minnie Demoura, Aux. #444 Minnie Demoura, Aux. #447 Sheryl Pirzer

Department Officers Reports

President: Debbie Beck report is on page 8. She is happy to see you all again. Hope your enjoying your weekend and learning lots of information and meeting new people. Her project is The Guardian Angels for Special Populations. It's a program for mental handicap adults to help them get back into society so they can work side by side with everyone else and enjoy the same things we do. In the back of the room is a donation box if you would like to donate anything that is listed in the forecast it would be greatly appreciated. She appreciates all your support for this worthy project. And please remember when you can be anything, be kind.

1st Vice President: PNP Patty Piening report is on page 9, Scorecard 10-12

Membership renewal process is very important she then read from AMVETS National Auxiliary Manual Article 4 Membership and dues, Section 4,

(a) No person shall be a member of more than 1 auxiliary,

(b) the membership runs from January 1st to December 31st. Any membership received at the local level after December 31st must be a REJOIN for 3 months.

After this time, they will be New Member. When sending in the completed remittance form from your local to Executive Secretary PDP DonnaJeanne Hakler please make sure the monies are correct or she will send it back to your local Auxiliary. Give it able time so our Executive Secretary has adequate time to do this. Also, the DNR need to be sent to Executive Secretary DonnaJeanne Hakler by the Jan 7th. Everyone has deadlines. Please do not hold membership.

2nd Vice President: Holly Burbach report is on pages 13-15 please read it. She stated the Forecast comes out this weekend, please take them back to your locals and apply for the awards. You've done the work get the reward you deserve. Reminder that April is John Tracey Center month. Thanked all the auxiliaries that have sent in reports. Don't Forget that end of year reports must be in hands by May 5th. Wishes the president a wonderful and productive SEC

3rd Vice President: Chrissy Albright's report is on page 16 please take a moment to read it.

March is PAWS month so please consider working to donate to this wonderful cause. School of

Instruction will have information on this also. Please also consider a fundraiser to support Madam Presidents Project. Also remember to apply for awards. End of year reports are due in her hands by May 5th. Wishes Madam President a successful SEC.

NEC: NEC/PDP Sherry Marecek report is on pages 36-38 please read them. Considering we are getting back in the groove of things, she thanked every Auxiliary and its members for the service reports submitted. Mid Year total was \$292,285 Congratulations to Aux. #'s 8 & 81 for reporting in all 5 programs at Mid year. Our reporting year is May 1st thru April 31st. (We have a year end when we have to report to national.) Remember due date, which means in the hands of the Service officers is May 5th 2022. This will be reported to National for Year End evaluations. She will be attending the spring NEC meeting in early March and will bring any and all info back to the Department.

Alt NEC: Jerry Devoll report on page 39 please read. She can only reiterate the due dates due. Please come back to the school of instruction hope all attend as there is a lot of information out there. Things she is learned over the years is to be flexible so when dates change don't get upset, that's just the way it is. Things changes

Chaplain: Wendy Luzader report on page 32 please read. As of Thursday, she has received 54 deceased member notifications. Please review your membership roster to ensue notifications have been sent to her, in turn she will submit them to Exec. Secretary DonnaJeanne Hackler & National. Please keep members who are ill in your prayers & pray for those family members who have lost a loved one. She shared a poem from National Chaplin, called IN THE PALM OF HIS HANDS written by Alice Delzer October 2007. Thanked Madam president for the honor of serving as her Dept Chaplain and thanked all the auxiliary members for all they do

Americanism: Dawn Stewart report is on page 23 read at your leisure. Dawn reported this year is going by so quickly let's make the rest of this year a memorable and productive one. Year end reports are due in her hands by May 5th. All the reports she has received and thanked all for doing a great job. Thanked Madam president for the honor to serve with her and wishes her a successful SEC.

Scholarship: Liz Marquis report is on pages 29-31, she hopes all are enjoying SEC. All Auxiliaries are doing a fabulous job this year and many Auxiliaries have some pretty impressive numbers, keep up the good work! End of year service reports are due in her hand by May 5th. She also mentioned to please make sure you are rounding up.

Parliamentarian: PNP/PDP Charlene Kee report is on page 40. If your Auxiliary is listed in this report, your bylaws are due to her no later than May 15th. A copy of the Bylaws Cover Sheet is in each SEC packet, please read the instruction and thanked PDP DonnaJeanne Hakler for making the copies. Bylaws committee met yesterday, they had 6 guests, thanked them for attending, she was prepared for the first reading of the recommendations. The second reading will be read during the State Convention in June with a vote. She thanked the committee members for

their support and to always remember that she is available at any time during this weekend or contact by phone or email if you need any assistance.

Bylaws recommendations were read on the floor and will be read again at the June 2022 Convention where they will be voted on. The following are the recommended changes:

ARTICLE IX-DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

SECTION 1: PRESIDENT

Page 5 Add new (a): she shall update website to include Officers List, President's message, forms, etc. She shall send all updated information to the Executive Secretary, who shall then send in PDF format to the Webmaster

(a) Now becomes (b), (b) becomes (c), etc.

Section 2: First Vice President

Page 6 (d) Add to the end of the sentence after paid

(d) Now to read (d) She shall confirm the Executive Secretary, no later than January 10th, that all Departments (elected and appointed) Officers' membership dues are paid by December 31st. She shall report the outcome to the President and Parliamentarian.

Section 5: The Americanism, Hospital, and Scholarship Officers

Page 7 Add new (d): The scholarship Officer shall update Department Scholarship Application and forward to the President, 1st Vice President, and Parliamentarian for approval.

Section 7: Executive Secretary

Page 8 Add new (b): She shall send, in PDF format to the Webmaster, all updated information received from the President.

(Housekeeping-change was corrected at SEC Meeting 10/30/2021)

(s) On page 9 was deleted. Change old (b) now new (c) to read: She Shall email minutes of the meetings to the State Executive Committeewomen (SEC) and Officers within two (2) weeks after receiving approval from the President unless hard copy is requested in writing

Old (c) now becomes (d) etc.

Page 9 (o) Move the last sentence and add new (p) and change old (p) to become (q).

(o) Now Read: she shall copy and mail out information as directed by the Department President which includes three (3) issues of the HOTLINE.

Page 9 New (p) She shall mail out remaining Forecasts not distributed at the February SEC.

OLD (p) now becomes (q) She shall be responsible for the SEC and Convention books.

Under (q) add:

The SEC and Convention book should include:

1. Department Officers Reports approved and forwarded by the Department President.
2. VAVS Representative, Local, and District Presidents Reports are sent directly to the Executive Secretary for the February SE and Department Convention only
Old (p) now becomes (q), etc.

Section 10: The Chaplain

Page 10 Changes (b): Take out “as the need arises.”

- (b)** Now to read: She shall send cards of condolence or get well wishes from the Department. A sympathy card will be sent if notification is received within two (2) months from date of death. A “Thinking of You” card will be sent if notification is sent within four (4) months from date of death.

ARTICLE X- NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE

Page 15 Paragraph (e): Add last sentence- “All awards shall be presented at the fall SEC.

Under (e) add:

1. Monetary awards shall be distributed to the recipient (Local/Individual) for deposit. The award itself will be given to the Delegate. Department monetary awards shall be given to the Executive Secretary for deposit.
2. At the time of presentation of awards at the Fall SEC, the award will be presented with information of monetary award.

Delete (f), (g) now becomes (f), etc.

ARTICLE XII- PRESIDENTS COUNCIL

Page 16 Paragraph (a): Add “district” Now reads: Each Local/District President shall be a member of the Presidents’ Council.

Paragraph (c): Delete the “the local” and “all.” Now reads: The purpose of the Council is to exchange ideas in order to strengthen all Auxiliaries.

ARTICLE XVII-DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Page 20(h) Suggested order of Business at the Department Convention:

Move Reading of Convention Rules and add Appoint Timekeeper under the Approval of Agenda.

Add new, the following

ARTICLE XXII-ELECTRONIC MEETINGS

Page 24 All electronic meetings for Department, District, and Local Auxiliaries shall be followed as outlined in ARTICLE XIV in National Constitution.

Old Article XXII Other Organizations now becomes XXII, XXII Rules becomes XXIV, and Article xxiv Amendments now becomes XXV.

Parliamentarian PNP/PDP Charlene Kee clarified XIX Communications (d) on page 23 that President and SEC Council Chairman is the President Council and SEC Council Chairman. She thanked the Bylaws committee, PDP Karen Powers, 1st Vice President Patty Piening, 3rd Vice President Chrissy Albright, NEC/PDP Sherry Marecek, Immediate Past President Meltonia Presley, PDP Gloria Jasinski, President Debbie Beck, Ex officio

Local Presidents Reports :

Aux. 4- Growing membership, Aux., Sons and Amvets working together

Aux. 8- report on page 55 read at your leisure

Aux. 9- had a cookoff challenge went very well, members doing good with involvement with the Auxiliary.

Aux. 23- Auxiliary doing well, members getting involved

Aux. 26- Report on page 56 read at your leisure

Aux. 30- Report on page 57 Read at your leisure

Aux. 32- Auxiliary still going strong, just finished a project meal for the Veterans, very good year

Aux. 50 Report on page 58 read at your leisure

Aux. 60 Trying to find past activities that were successful and change them up a little, doing weekly Wednesday night meal, supporting the Veterans with a Saturday night dinner.

Aux. 67 Really busy this year. She stated it has been an honor and privilege to have been elected as Madam President for Aux. 67, Also thank for the opportunity to work amazing sisters. That it is nice to that are all working toward common goals such as Veterans, children and the Community. Even though they are a small Auxiliary they have pulled together to get things accomplished with Spaghetti dinner, for St Jude, silent auction and 50/50. Rubens and chips for Americanism and dedicating the month of March for Americanism. They have raised money for Clearwater Center, nursing home. They collected two 33-gallon drums filled with t shirts and socks for Americanism and Community Service. Held a for Johns Tray Clinic, paws for a Cause, adopted 19 Veterans for Christmas and donated \$500.00 to the Bay Pines Nursing home. On Wednesdays they do canteen games for Madam President, which she then presented to Madam President Debbie Beck a check of \$500.00 for her Guardian Angles project.

Aux. 81 Report on page 59 read it at your leisure, with holidays just passed we gave to 5 families in need for food baskets, and 60 children for the given tree, also the past Christmas we did Wreaths Across America, which was my first time doing it, will continue to do this again every year what an amazing feeling. More fundraisers to come in the next 3 months, couldn't do this without sisters of Aux 81 a great bunch of ladies behind me and always there for me.

Aux. 88 report is on page 60, it's a lengthy report very busy with fundraisers. Bingo twice a month encourage all Auxiliaries to do Bingo, fundraising for charities list consist of local schools, Fisher House, Veterans. Also thanked her 1st Vice who is her right hand couldn't do it without her.

Aux.312 just had a Monster Bingo for Freedom Foundation, holidays for 10 families and 18 children. January the did blast from the past everyone all dressed up. Had a Sweetheart dance 100 people participated. Also trying to do as much to support this great organization.

Aux. 444 just become the new president in October after the prior stepped down, Auxiliary back up and coming out to support, reports to follow she promises. Just Raised 500.00 3 children to go to Washington and 560.00 for another event.

Aux. 777 very busy with Auxiliary, AMVETS, Sons, Riders supporting the Douglas Jacobson raised \$1,700.00 applied to match from the Service. Also just gave them 68 slip on shoes and on Veterans day gave them Certificate of Appreciation, baseball hat with their branch of service. Did Wreaths Across America good turnout.

Aux.1292 Little post in the Panhandle of 50 members and they like doing Parades, Mardi Gra Parade, Christmas parade, veteran parades. They were not aware they could report this. They also do a Talent Show every year for a Veterans home, they are excited they can report this. So, anything you do you might not know you can report but to check it out. Will be hearing from the panhandle ladies in coming months.

Aux.2006 Sorry report did not make it in the book, they have been very busy, did Wreaths Across America. The Community Service and child welfare officers got together and helped 9 single parents families living in a local hotel provide enough food for 2 months and provided all the children with bikes at Christmas. So, check out your community for single parents, all these single parents were men and woman, and most were working just need help.

Aux. 1992 they hosted celebration PNP/PDP Dee Baggett and Rider Past National President Tom McNamara. Will be hosting a Dept of Florida Rider Rally in March. We hold regular meetings, involved in PAWS they are building an 8-bedroom home for female veterans in Houston they are helping with that., child welfare at Christmas gave 100 gifts at the holidays.

Aux. 422 no report in book, but did Canine Day, rescued dogs from local rescue with the service dogs that can be trained and given to our Veterans, and sponsoring a dog in Ohio Called Someone Companion, she goes across the nations, she vets them gives food for life, once they decide to adopt that dog, once its trained, veteran receive the dog it will be on broadcasted on TV. We have done a lot rebuilding our Auxiliary including 32 baskets at Christmas, 38 children on the given tree.

PDP Meltonia Presley has said she ran across some envelopes that should have turned in October SEC. that she found in a bag that she hasn't used in a while, Aux. 1992 Florida Johns Tracey, Aux 1992 Florida PNP Charlene Kee award 2019-2020 Gave the correct envelopes to the correct persons, she apologized.

DISTRICT III REPORTS: Last meeting was very productive, share locals' news, enlighten sister auxiliary with information, give support, discussed purchase of table for community events, some locals don't even know what organization are about and we want to continue to grow we need the communities to know who we are, to grow our membership with the younger generation into this organization.

DISTRICT VI REPORTS: Thanked locals bring baskets, and contributions. Thanked Madam President to stay as our Parliamentarian when she is so busy but she still managers to be involved in

District VI, so thank you and at this time and have a \$150.00 check from District VI for your project and \$150.00 from Auxiliary 23.

Executive Report: by PDP Donnajeanne Hackler Report is on page 44 please read it as it contains important information. In your packets you will find 3 membership rosters: your current members as of February 5th, 2022, your Life members, and members whose membership has expired as of February 13,2022. She did receive some membership since then so some of your members may move from expired to current. She has processed everything that she has received up and through February 16,2022 with only a few exceptions. You will find Revalidation Form and a Dues Remittance Form for your use, remember all forms are on the website: amvetsauxfl.org. Remember deadline dates are important so you don't want to miss any. WE are all working together to help our Veterans, Children and Communities. We need to remember that we are all volunteers and none of us are perfect so remember that enthusiasm has a way rolling over mistakes. Wishes Madam President a fruitful SEC.

Recording Secretary by Robin Trudeau report on page 45 when doing Roll Call speak loud and clearly, the only person that can excuse a President or SEC woman is the Department Madam President. Remember these meetings are for all of us, don't be afraid to speak up at meetings if you have any questions or concerns. State your name and Auxiliary so it can be recording in the minutes correctly. Wishes Madam president successful SEC.

Grievance Chair Report, hoping all are having a great time, come to school of instruction, she has nothing to report at this time. Report is on page 52.

Appeals Chair Gloria Jasinski nothing to report at this time

PRO Carolyn Bain her been working on Madam Presidents scrapbook, would like any pictures if she has visited your local to send to her with your local aux number and name.

HONORS AND AWARDS by PNP/PDP Evelyn McElvin reports to not to lose your antenna don't forget to send in for your awards. Come back at 1:00 today for School of Instruction.

Bushnell Cemetery no report in book, stop by do the next stage of the monuments. Wishing Madam President a successful SEC looking forward to seeing her in June.

NEC by NEC/PDP Sherry Marecek by remind school of instruction this afternoon bring by laws and manuals.

CREDENTIALS BY Doe Seals that 99% pre-registration very proud to announce

PNP/PDP Dee Baggett wanted to thank all member and her Local 1992 for all their support while she was National President meant so much to her, and to be remember we are all sisters to help each other out.

If your intentions are to run for a department position, Department Officers training July 8-10 expect you to be there and appointed position also.

Benediction by Wendy Luzader
Recessed until Sunday

Sunday February 20, 2022 Third Business Session

Raffle drawing prior to meeting
Friday 50/50 90.00
Saturday 50/50 103.00
Sunday 50/50 103.00
Silent Auction 175.00

Call to Order by Madam President Debbie Beck at 8:30 a.m.
Invocation by Chaplain Wendy Luzader
Pledge of Allegiance by Sgt. At Arms Toni Plemmons
Roll Call of Officers by Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau

Credentials Report Doe Seals reported there was 137 pre-registration, 9 registration on site and 37 no shows. She turned in \$1,320.00 to The Executive Secretary PDP Donnajeanne Hakler. She also stated it was a really great weekend.

Gavelier's Report PDP Sherry Marecek began by thanking Madam President for the use of the Suite to hold their meeting, lunch was great, and they appreciate her. Yesterday they had 11 First Timers. Thanked them for coming & she hoped to see them for many more to come. Thanked everyone for purchasing the Gaveliers raffle tickets. They collected \$475.00 which goes into a fund to assist the Department, such as the screen rental for school of instruction.

Motion on the floor by NEC/ PDP Sherry Marecek moved to accept PDP Meltonia Presley's individual award. Her award will be presented to the Auxiliary donating the most money to Advent Health Transplant Patient Assistance Program. Entry form required Seconded by PNP/PDP Evelyn McElvin, no discussion, MOTION CARRIED

Convention Chair Report collected total of \$471.00 which is listed above.

Honors & Awards Report by PNP/PDP Evelyn McElvin reminded us to apply for awards, forecast was given out, if anyone did not get one to see her. Share the forecast if anyone has any questions to please call her.

Presidents Council Report Dawn Stewart reported the Presidents Council met yesterday they had a great attendance with 2 guest attending as well. The local presidents shared what fundraisers they have been doing and how their posts have been holding joint fundraisers that ben-

efits the Amvets, Sons & Auxiliary. If any local Presidents have any questions or concerns, please call, text or email her. Thanked Madam President for a great February SEC.

SEC Council Ardith Keiser reported yesterday at SEC Council meeting they welcomed several new SEC representatives as they introduced themselves. In all, there were 22 members in attendance. They gave a short description of the successful things they expect Auxiliaries are doing and then used the Q & As time to do a deeper description of the activities so that the others can go back to their Auxiliary and perhaps incorporate into their plans for fundraising. Also important of open communication and or just joint meeting with the Amvets, Sons, Riders and Auxiliary to see when they can help their post and Auxiliary be the best they can be. She was grateful for the opportunity to serve all officers.

Sgt At Arms Toni Plemmons thanked Madam President for allowing her to hold this position, it is an honor to work with all these ladies. Also wanted to thank Donna Chapparo, Kathy Trunk, Claudia Thompson, Peg Morgan and Donna Beatty. Collected \$41.00

Quartermaster Toni Fox reported lots of sales this weekend with all the new items, Friday sales \$1,598, Saturday Sales \$1,149 total all weekend was \$3,539. Thanked Carolyn Bain Aux. #81 and Kim Clarke Aux.# 81 for all their help this weekend and to Carolyn for helping with inventory.

Ways and Means Ginger Downs thanked the auxiliaries who donated the baskets, thanked Sandra and Heather for helping with selling them, total collected was \$539.00

Unfinished Business, Training Chair PNP/PDP Charlene Kee advised if you are running for a Department officer there is a training July 8-10 Holiday Inn Express in Wildwood Florida. Elected/appointed officers are expected to attend.

Madam President thanked all the trainers for doing a great job yesterday at school of instruction

New Business

Debbie Beck intends to run for Department President
Patty Piening for 1st Vice President
Holly Burbach for 2nd Vice President
Chrissy Albright for 3rd Vice President
Dawn Stewart for Americanism
Liz Marquis Scholarship Officers
Wendy Luzader Chaplain

If anyone on the floor would like to run for office, you may make your attentions known if you like.

Benediction by Wendy Luzader

Retirement of Colors by Sgt At Arms Toni Plemmons

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau