

ALA DISTRICT 13 CONVENTION

Legionnaires and Auxiliary members of District 13 met in Shubert, NE for the 2019 District 13 Convention on February 16, 2019. The convention was co-hosted by the Shubert and Humboldt Units & Posts. The men held their meeting in the Legion Building while the women met in the Shubert Christian Church.

President, Linda Patchen, called the Auxiliary meeting to order. Patsy Wing and Elizabeth Ketner advanced the Colors. Invocation was given by Chaplain, Ruth Hietbrink. The Pledge of Alligence was led by Secretary/Treasurer, Doris DeJonge. The National Anthem was played by Shari Karjala. Vice President, Amanda Washburn, led the group in reciting the Preamble. Lois Blinde, Parliamentarian, read Resolution 288, the POW/MIA Observance. Roll Call of Units indicated there were 33 senior members present.

Shubert Unit 222 President, Tana Brown, welcomed all in attendance. Amanda Washburn, from the Cook Unit 360, gave the response. President Linda introduced the special guests from Department: President, Beverly Neel; Department Historian, Barbie Meyer; Department Nat'l Committeewoman, Kathy Mazur; Advisory Chairman, Barb Washburn; Legislative Chairman, Kay Ebeler; and NE Veterans Home Chairman, Leatrice Doolen.

Reading of the minutes from last year's Convention were dispensed with. Treasurer's report was read. President Linda reported that she was sworn in at Department Convention. Her President's Project is the VA Hospital in Lincoln. This was followed by Vice-President Amanda's report. She stated that District 13 is in 3rd place for membership. Shubert has 100% membership and Table Rock is close. Unit Presidents from Humboldt, Sterling, Burchard, Pawnee City, Cook, Auburn, Shubert, Crab Orchard and Johnson reported on their projects they had done during the past year. Richardson County Officers are: President, Tana Brown; Vice President, Doris Erickson; and Secretary, Elizabeth Ketner.

The Little Red School House VA & R, and AEF coin march was done prior to Department President, Beverly Neel giving her report. A resolution to honor veterans has been made and we are waiting on Congress to approve. The Legion will be celebrating it's 100th anniversary in March. A Nebraska Centennial Committee, with our own Amanda Washburn on, needs ideas from all the Units for the celebration. Please remember, the Auxiliary is not exempt from city or sales taxes.

Kathy Mazur, Department Committee Woman and Nat'l Security Chairman was our next speaker. All members must keep their membership current if you ever need assistance from the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

Department Historian and Cavalcade of Memories Chairman, Barbie Meyer reported that in 2020, it will be the 100th anniversary of the Auxiliary. You may cut out coupons which can be sent to the overseas base commissaries. That address is: Bldg 1200, Flugplatz, Ramstein AB APO 09094. You will need to get a customs form from your local post office, indicate "O" value, do not insure, and use a flat rate envelope.

County Caucuses were formed to nominate the 2019-2020 District 13 President and Vice President. By unanimous vote from the four counties, Linda Patchen and Amanada Washburn were re-elected.

The Legionnaires joined the Auxiliary for the Memorial Service presented by the Johnson #330 Post and Unit.

Before the luncheon, catered by Wooden Spoon Catering of Stella, greetings were given by Gary Hays, Chairman of the Shubert Village board. Invocation was given by District Chaplain, Jim Reed. Greetings were also from Ken Mandl, District 13 Commander. Ken also introduced the Legion Department guests. Kevin McKinney from the Tecumseh Post #2 shared the special message of Junior Law Cadet, Tyler Bartels, who was unable to attend the convention.

The Auxiliary reconvened at 12:50 PM. A Gold Star Program consisted of "I Love America" sung to the tune of "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory". Auburn has 5 or 6 members, Shubert has 4, Johnson has 2, and Crab Orchard just lost 2 this year. These members are either mothers, wives, sisters, or daughters of relatives killed while on active duty.

Door prizes were awarded. Awards and Certificates were handed out.

Department Advisory and AEF Chairman, Barb Washburn reported that "Purses with a Purpose" were distributed to shelters, facilities, missions, and the Salvation Army in four states. At last count, 1,320 purses were donated. This should be reported on your Unit's Community Service report as three hours per purse, and \$25.00 per purse. If you have any purses or totes you wish to donate, contact Department or give to your Unit President and they will be taken to Department offices.

Legislative Chairman, Kay Ebeler, with the help of Ruth Hietbrink and Deb Albers, will be sending out information on a lot of things that need to be reported. Please count the number of people and veterans you come in contact with. She also commented on the bills that are in place by the legislature.

Leatrice Doolen, NE Veterans Home Chairman will be sending the Unit Presidents a "needs" list for veterans or you may contact pattihowe@nebraska.gov. Of the funds received for the VA, five pocket talkers were given out.

Norma Arington gave the Registration Report. There were 32 members and 4 guests present. Poppy orders were distributed to the Units.

Installation of the 2019-2020 District 13 officers was done by Department President, Beverly Neel and Chaplain, Kathy Mazur. Linda Patchen was installed as President, Amanda Washburn as Vice President, Doris DeJonge as Secretary & Treasurer, and Ruth Hietbrink as Chaplain.

The Resolution report was given by Amanda Washburn. The 2019 Fall Round-Up will be held in Humboldt on October 26, 2019. Pawnee County extends an invitation to the 2020 District 13 Convention. Date TBA.

Prior to adjournment, "God Bless America" was sung, the Colors were retired, and a Closing Prayer was read by Ruth Hietbrink.

Doris DeJonge, District 13 Secretay

Awards and Certificates Winners

Finger Gavel for Americanism – Humboldt Unit #269

Murphy Gavel for Community Service – Cook Unit #369

Gauchet Bell for VA & R – Shubert Unit #222

Wagenknecht Gavel for 2nd place VA & R – Johnson Unit #330

Rosewood Certificate for highest % membership by Sept. 1st – Shubert Unit #222

Poppy Centerpiece – 1st to Shubert; 2nd to Cook; 3rd to Burchard; Johnson received Honorable Mention

History Book – Shubert

Prayer Book – 1st to Shubert; 2nd to Humboldt

Publicity Book – 1st to Shubert; 2nd to Cook; 3rd to Humboldt

Narrative Reports for Americanism – 1st Humboldt, 2nd Cook, 3rd Johnson, 4th Shubert

VA & R Reports – 1st Shubert, 2nd Johnson, 3rd Cook, 4th Humboldt

Community Service Reports – 1st to Cook, 2nd to Humboldt, 3rd to Shubert, 4th to Johnson

Navy Ammunition Depot Membership Award for 50% of 2019 Membership Goal by December 25th and **Cornhusker Ordinance Plant Award** for 25% of Unit Membership Goal by November 11th were also handed out.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

March 1, 2019 – Applications for Girls State

March 15, 2019 – Americanism Essays due & Scholarship applications

April to early May 2019 – Girl and Boys State Orientation

May 15, 2019 – Poppy Reports due to Department

June 2-8, 2019 – Cornhusker Girls State

June 20-23, 2019 – Department Convention in Kearney, NE

October 26, 2019 – Fall Round-Up in Humboldt

February 2020 – District 13 Convention in Pawnee City