

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
Department of Nebraska  
District 11 Convention

Date: February 17, 2019  
Meeting Held: Tobias, Nebraska

Number of Officers Present: 3  
Members Present: 32  
Guests Present: 5  
Juniors Present: 1

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The American Legion and Auxiliary District 11 Convention was held on Sunday, February 17, 2019, at the American Legion Hall in Tobias, Nebraska hosted by the Tobias American Legion Post #311 and the Tobias American Legion Auxiliary Unit #311. Because of the weather, all activities for the District Meeting will start an hour later. A non-denominational religious service was held at 9:00 a.m. in the Tobias Fire Hall. Registration at the Tobias Legion Hall began at 8:30 a.m. with cinnamon rolls and coffee provided by the host post and Unit.

At 10:00 a.m. District 11 Commander Glenn Schwab called the joint session to order. The colors were advanced and posted by Tobias Post #311 and the invocation was given by District 11 Chaplain Pro-Tem Jerry Lamkin. District 11 Vice Commander Rodd Paul then placed the POW/MIA flag on the empty chair. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by the American Legion/Auxiliary Preambles. The National Anthem was sung with Julia Pohlmann, District 11 Music Chairman at the keyboard.

Welcomes were given by Tobias Post #311 Commander Bob Bartels and Tobias Auxiliary Unit #311 President Judy Bartels. District 11 Legion Commander Glenn Schwab introduced his guests and officers: Guest speaker, Caleb Hendrickson who attended Boys Nation; SAL Sr. Vice Commander, Willy Foster; SAL National Chaplain, David Rippe; Sons Detachment Commander, Bud Neel; Dept. State Commander, Lyle Bartels; Dept. Sr. Vice Commander, Gary Wooten; Dept. Area B Vice Commander, Doug Frahm; Dept. Area C Vice Commander, Wade Graft; Dept. Activities Director, Brent Hagel-Pitt; Dept. Asst. Sergeant at Arms, Larry Kasper; Alt. National Executive Committeeman, Fred Craigie, Dist. 11 Vice Commander, Rodd Paul; Dist. 11 Oratical, Robert Kasl.

District 11 Auxiliary President Vicki Ozenbaugh introduced her guests and officers: National Junior Activities member, Deb Albers; National Security Chairman and National Executive Committeewoman, Kathy Mazur; Dept. President, Beverly Neel; Dept. Secy/Treas, Lisa Moore; Dept. Historian, Barbie Meyer; Dept. Membership, Angie Foster; Dept. Jr. Activities, Carol Capek; Dept. Jr. Honorary President, Brianna Capek; Dist. 11 Vice President, Arlis Hohl; Dist. 11 Secy/Treas, Diana Pomajzl; Dist. 11 Chaplain, Judy Bartels, Dist. 11 Historian, Alice Vieselmeyer; Dist. 11 Parliamentarian, Bonnie Dumler; Dist. 11 Musician, Julia Pohlmann, Dist. 11 Publicity, Kimberly Gurley; Dist. 11 Poppy, Loree Hendrickson; Past Dept. and Dist. 11 Presidents, Bonnie Dumler, Deb Albers, and Marva Kasl; Past Dist. 11 President, Judy Bespalec; Saline County President, Doris Galbraith and Thayer County President, Donna Schweer.

A joint Memorial Service was conducted by the Beatrice Post #27 and Beatrice Auxiliary Unit #27 showing that the district lost 113 Legion members and 59 Auxiliary members.

Addressing the joint session was Fred Craigie, Alt. National Executive Committeeman who had a few words from National. Commander Schwab then asked if there were any announcements to be made at this time. Bob Kasl stated that positions need to be filled for the upcoming meetings, the Fall Round-Up in October and the District Meeting in February.

A recess was then called where the women moved to across the street to the Fire Hall for their meeting. Judy Bartels, convention chairman called the American Legion Auxiliary District 11 meeting to order. The County colors were in place, the District colors were advanced followed by Vicki Ozenbaugh, District 11 President. Judy Bartels presented the gavel to District 11 President Vicki Ozenbaugh so that she could conduct the meeting today. She thanked Judy and as our District Chaplain, will you offer a prayer. We observed a moment of silence in memory of our dead while Taps were softly played by the District Musician, Julie Pohlmann. As that we officially opened with the Legion, we omitted our opening except for the flag salute. The POW/MIA flag was in place on the empty chair.

President Vicki Ozenbaugh then declared this convention of District 11 American Legion Auxiliary Department of Nebraska regularly convened. As that Tobias Unit #311 President Judy Bartels already welcomed everyone at the joint session she will not repeat, but Past Dept. President, Bonnie Dumler gave the response. Chairman of Pages, Lucille Capek introduced pages Vicki Fleming of Deshler Unit #352 and Marla Furrow of Plymouth Unit #243. Each received a gift from President Vicki.

As that our guests were introduced in the joint session, we will recognize them when they address us later. President Vicki is honored to have Past Dept. Presidents present who are Bonnie Dumler, Marva Kasl, and Deb Albers. Also Past District Presidents present Bonnie Dumler, Alice Vieselmeyer, Marva Kasl, Lisa Moore, Lucille Capek, Deb Albers, Judy Bsepalec, and herself. She thanked everyone who sent in their Unit histories. For those who did not submit, they are still able to as that she is able to update them periodically.

District Secretary, Diana Pomajzl then called the Roll Call of Units with units responding as to how many members were present, their membership goal, and number of paid-up members. There were 17 units responding. It was moved by District Secretary Diana Pomajzl to dispense with the reading of the 2018 District 11 Convention minutes as that they are printed in the convention booklet. It was seconded by Kathryn Burbach of Fairmont Unit # 21. Motion carried. The minutes were approved and placed on file. It was moved by District Secretary Diana Pomajzl to dispense with the reading of District Executive Pre-Convention minutes as that they are printed in the convention booklet. Seconded by Doris Galbraith of Crete Unit #147. Motion carried. The minutes were approved and placed on file. District Treasurer Diana Pomajzl then read the treasurer's report showing a balance of \$2757.75. Saundra Karst of Wilber Unit #101 recommended that the treasurer's report be accepted as read. There were no objections. The Treasurer's report will be placed on file for audit.

The executive board made the following recommendations for donations at the District Convention. \$400.00 - \$100.00 to each of the four Veterans Homes - Bellevue, Kearney, Norfolk, and Scottsbluff; \$50.00 - Little Red Schoolhouse; \$50.00 - Auxiliary Emergency Fund; \$50.00 - Children's Miracle Network; \$50.00 - National President's Project; \$50.00 Department's President Project; \$50.00 - Department Honorary Junior President's Project; \$50.00 District 11 President's Project; \$100.00 - Grand Island VA Medical Center third floor in patient needs for a total of \$850.00. It was moved by Donna Schweer of Bruning Unit #166 to accept these donations. Seconded by Deb Albers of Davenport Unit #335. Motion carried.

President Vicki Ozenbaugh presented a bill for her yearly expenses of \$336.99. Loree Hendrickson of Shickley Unit #164 moved to pay the bill. Seconded by Vicky Thompson of Milligan Unit #240. Motion carried.

District Music Chairman, Julia Pohlmann, then had us sing "The Old Red, White, and Blue". Honorary Junior Dept. President, Briana Capek was escorted to the podium by the pages to give her report. She was assisted by her mother Carol Capek, Dept. Junior Chairman who is on crutches because of a broken kneecap. Her project is Robotic Friends (dogs & cats) for Veterans. The hat was passed around for Briana's project which netted \$61.00. Her mother then gave her report on juniors activities.

Convention chairman Judy Bartels thanked all of the ladies who helped her to make this District Meeting a success. Bubba's Anytime of Geneva will be catering the noon meal. President Vicki announced that there is a container on the table for the Dept President's project march. The march netted \$61.00. President Vicki said we will recess at this time for the noon banquet, live auction, and raffle drawing. We all then hand saluted the flag. Pictures were taken. We returned to the Legion Hall for the prayer before the meal given by District 11 Legion Chaplain Pro-Tem Jerry Lamkin.

After the meal the guest speaker, Caleb Hendrickson of Shickley reported on his experiences while attending Boys Nation. Dist. 11 Commander Glenn Schwab presented the Tobias Post and Unit with a Certificate of Resolutions for having an excellent meeting. The live auction was then conducted by Richard Schoenholz of Ohio Post #193. The auction netted \$717.50. The drawing for the raffle items followed. The picture was won by Peggy Junker of Fairbury Unit #24 and the flag was won by Dept. President, Beverly Neel. The raffle netted \$592.75.

The Auxiliary reconvened at the Fire Hall for their afternoon session. We all hand saluted the flag. District 11 Secretary, Diana Pomajzl then read the roll call for the afternoon session and only answer with how many are here in the afternoon. 17 units reported. County President's reports are not in the booklet as that all of the presidents did not report. If Vicki gets them she will mail out in her mailing. Saline County President Doris Galbraith and Thayer County President Donna Schweer gave brief reports on their counties.

District Vice President Arlis Hohl gave her report. President Vicki thanked her and then turned the gavel over to Vice President Arlis in order to give her report but she did not read it as that it is in the booklet. Vice President Arlis thanked her for the report and returned the gavel to President Vicki. In your registration packet there is an index card with Questions for the Hat. What have you always wanted to ask, but haven't. Write the question on the card and place it in the hat. Later the questions will be answered. Praying for soldiers is a way to involve your community in our support for our military serving today. Pages please hand out the poster and toy soldiers to everyone. Rosie the Riveter pins are available for .50 cents each.

Dept. President Beverly Neel was then introduced and escorted to the podium by the pages. A fund raiser for the Dept. is to raffle off a T-Shirt quilt. Be sure to include sales tax (state and city) on your poppy orders as that we are not tax exempt. National Executive Committeewoman and National Security, Kathy Mazur was introduced. She has a plaque to present to Iola Barney of Shickley as the Unit Member of the Year in Nebraska. Cause of the weather conditions and her age of 87 years she was unable to attend but Loree Hendrickson of Shickley will accept it for her. Additional reports were heard from Dept. Secretary Lisa Moore who explained and showed the video for the Dept. Website. National Junior Activities Committee member and Past Presidents Parley Chairman, Deb Albers had a few words for us. Dept. Historian Barbie Meyer

showed the history video from the national website page and also said there were no history books here to judge. Dept. Membership, Angie Foster reported that we are in fourth place in membership. President Vicki presented all of her guest speakers with a gift.

Dept. Commander Lyle Bartels then entered to announce dates and times for the following as that there was some misunderstanding about them before:

2019 Junior Law Cadet-Sunday, April 7 at Beatrice-2:00 p.m.

2019 Boys/Girls State Orientation-Sunday, April 28 at Wilber-2:00 p.m.

2019 Jr Honorary President Conv.-Sunday, May 19 at Milligan-Reg @ 12:30 p.m.

2019 District 11 Fall Round-Up-Sunday, Oct. 20 at Fairbury-Reg @ 1:30 p.m.

2019 District Oratorical Contest-Saturday, Nov. 16 at Dorchester-9:00 a.m.

2020 District 11 Convention-Sunday, Feb. 16 at Beatrice-Reg @ 8:30 a.m.

2020 Junior Law Cadet-Sunday, April 5 at

2020 Boys/Girls State Orientation-Sunday, April 26 at Wilber-

Questions from the Hat were answered at this time. The hat was passed around for the Emergency Fund which netted \$28.00.

“God Bless America” was sung by everyone while the District Chairmen came forward to give their reports and presentations:

Historian Chairman, Alice Vieselmeyer received no History Books

Poppy Chairman, Loree Hendrickson received three centerpieces. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to Dorchester, 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to Friend, 3<sup>rd</sup> place went to Tobias.

Chaplain, Judy Bartels received 1 prayer book from Deshler

Publicity Chairman, Kim Gurley received no publicity books, but showed a video about Vicki's years as District 11 President

Parliamentarian, Bonnie Dumler spoke briefly on proper business meetings and procedures.

Secretary/Treasurer, Diana Pomajzl was thanked by President Vicki for doing a great job. She then presented a membership certificate to Plymouth Unit #243 for reaching 100% of their goal by convention. She will donate \$5.00 to female veterans project in their name. The District's Rosewood Gavel also goes to the Plymouth Unit #243.

The registration committee reported 35 Seniors, 1 Junior, and 5 guests. 17 units were represented. 34 men were registered.

New business: Marva Kasl announced that the District Junior Convention will be held on March 10 at Dorchester starting at 1:00 p.m. Discussion was then held as to what we do with the \$75.00 we received for membership. Alice Vieselmeyer of Friend Unit #183 moved that we donate it to the Quilts of Valor Foundation. Seconded by Linda Schafer of Tobias Unit #311. Motion carried. Vicky Thompson of Milligan Unit #240 moved that we donate an additional \$25.00 to the Quilts of Valor Foundation in order to make it a total of \$100.00. Loree Hendrickson of Shickley Unit #164 seconded. Motion carried. Anyone is able to donate to the Quilts of Valor Foundation, not just auxiliaries.

At this time President Vicki turned the gavel over to Vice President Arlis Hohl. President Vicki announced that she has decided to take the next step and run for the office of Department Historian. She needs an endorsement from our district for the position. Alice Vieselmeyer of Friend Unit #183 moved that we endorse Vicki Ozenbaugh for Department Historian. Judy Bepalec of Crete Unit #147 seconded. Motion carried. The gavel was handed back to Vicki in order for her to continue the meeting. She thanked everyone for the note of confidence.

The County Caucuses were then held for the purpose of providing names for the offices of District 11 President and Vice President. Each county will present the names to the Parliamentarian Bonnie Dumler. Arlis Hohl of Dresher Unit #352 was nominated for the office of President. There being no further nominations, Arlis was elected by voice vote. Gloria Henderson of Wymore Unit #25 was nominated for the office of Vice President. There being no further nominations, Gloria was elected by voice vote. Department President Beverly Neel then installed the following: Doris Galbraith, Saline County President and Donna Schweer, Thayer County President followed by District 11 officers: Secretary/Treasurer, Loree Hendrickson; Vice President, Gloria Henderson with Loree Dienstbier standing in for her; and President, Arlis Hohl. Prayer was given by Kathy Mazur.

Arlis announced her officers for the coming year: Historian, Alice Vieselmeyer; Poppy, Donna Schweer; Chaplain, Judy Bartels; Publicity, Kim Gurley; Parliamentarian, Bonnie Dumler; Music, Julia Pohlmann. Project is Quilts of Valor. Theme is serving the Past, Present, and Future Veterans. Publicity, write articles for the newspapers about the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Beatrice Post #27 is having a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 15, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. at the Beatrice Veterans Club followed by an open house for the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

President Vicki had a flag for everyone in their bags and we got them out and sang "You're A Grand Old Flag" as that her theme was faithful to our flag.

There being no further business to come before the convention, Chaplain Judy Bartels offered the closing prayer. The colors being in place were retired as such. The District 11 Convention was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Diana L. Pomajzl  
District 11 Secretary/Treasurer