

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Nebraska
District 11 Fall Round-Up

Date: October 20, 2019
Place: Fairbury, Nebraska

Number of Officers Present: 7
Number of Members Present: 35
Guests Present: 1
Juniors Present: 1
Non-Members Present: 0

The American Legion and Auxiliary of District 11, Department of Nebraska, Fall Round-Up was held on Sunday, October 20, 2019, at 2:00 p.m., hosted by American Legion and Auxiliary Post #24 of Fairbury, Nebraska.

The joint meeting was opened by District 11 Commander Glenn Schwab. The colors were presented by Post #24. The American flag was saluted, followed by an opening prayer. The POW/MIA empty chair cover was placed by District 11 Vice Commander Rodd Paul. Everyone saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The American Legion/Auxiliary preamble was given.

The meeting was called to order by Commander Schwab. Welcomes were given by the Fairbury Post Commander and a representative of the Fairbury Auxiliary Unit.

Introduction of guests were then given. Commander Schwab introduced Past Department of Nebraska Commander and current District 11 Finance Chair Lyle Bartels, District 11 Vice Commander Rodd Paul, and Sons of American Legion Detachment of Nebraska Senior Vice Commander Chris Casey and Eastern Vice Commander David Rippe.

District 11 Auxiliary President Arlis Hohl introduced National Education Chair and Past Department of Nebraska President Debra Albers, Past Department of Nebraska President and current District 11 Parliamentarian Bonnie Dumler, Department of Nebraska Secretary-Treasurer Lisa Moore, Department of Nebraska Historian Vicki Ozenbaugh, Department of Nebraska Membership Chair and District 11 Public Relations Chair Kimberly Gurley, District 11 Secretary-Treasurer Loree Hendrickson, District 11 Chaplain Judy Bartels, District 11 Historian Alice Vieselmeyer, District 11 Music Chairman Julia Pohlmann, and County Presidents Gloria Henderson of Gage and Doris Galbraith of Saline Counties.

Commander Schwab introduced a guest to speak on the 2020 U.S. Census. The Census is mandated by the United States Constitution and is conducted every ten years by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The Census counts the population in all 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia and the five U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands). The critical data provided by the Census is used by lawmakers, business owners, teachers and many others to provide daily services, products, and support for America's communities. Federal funding for hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources is determined based on Census data. This is a vast undertaking, so many people are needed for a 3-4 month period to assist with the Census. If any Legion and Auxiliary members are interested in helping out with the 2020 Census, they can apply online at www.2020census.gov/jobs.

Commander Schwab reminded everyone in attendance that the Legionnaire Insurance Trust offers \$1,000 of free accidental death insurance to every member of The American Legion Family (\$5,000 if one is killed while conducting official American Legion business). All one has to do is make sure that your dues are up to date and then enroll online at www.thelit.com. One only has to sign up one time to be enrolled.

National Auxiliary Education Chairman Deb Albers then addressed the group, reminding all Posts and Units to encourage their young people to apply for the National and Department scholarships available from The American Legion and Auxiliary. She highlighted the Samsung American Legion Scholarship program, which was endowed by Samsung Electronics in 1996 to show appreciation for U.S. veterans who came to South Korea's aid during its struggle against communist forces during the Korean War. Ten \$10,000 scholarships are awarded each year to those who attend Boys or Girls State; and in 2019, one of those scholarships went to a young woman from District 11, Caitlin Murphy of Exeter-Milligan Public School.

The Legion and Auxiliary then recessed to disperse into their respective groups. When the Legion Auxiliary reconvened, Chaplain Judy Bartels first led us in prayer; then in memory of our dead, we stood in silence. We sang one stanza of *The Star-Spangled Banner*. District 11 President Arlis Hohl called the 2019 Fall Round-Up meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.

Loree Hendrickson, District 11 Secretary-Treasurer, took the roll call of units, which showed 17 units represented. Norma Cox of Wymore moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes as a written copy of the 2018 Fall Round-Up minutes had been provided to everyone, and that the minutes should be approved with no corrections. Motion was seconded, no discussion. Motion carried.

Loree Hendrickson then gave the Treasurer's Report, showing a current balance of \$1,061.28. The Treasurer's Report will be placed on file for audit. Two bills were presented that will be submitted for payment at the District 11 Convention in February.

Correspondence was read, which included two thank you notes for donations that were made after the District 11 Convention held in February. One of those was from Phyllis Schoenholz on behalf of the Piecemakers, an area group who sew for the Quilts of Valor program, and the second was from Jody Johnson, Voluntary Service Specialist for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs/Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System's Grand Island Division, for funds that were sent to be used for in-patient needs.

President Arlis stated that Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts would be signing a proclamation on November 4 at 10:30 a.m. in the State Capitol Building in honor of the American Legion Auxiliary's 100th birthday. All Auxiliary members are encouraged to attend this celebration.

National Education Chair Debra Albers announced that Nebraska and specifically District 11 had two scholarship winners at the national level last year. She had mentioned one of them, Caitlin Murphy, when we were in joint session with The American Legion; but there was also Leah Schmidt of Deshler, who received one of the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarships worth \$5,000. She talked about the various scholarships available on the National level, including the Children of Warriors, the Spirit of Youth, the Samsung American Legion Scholarships for those attending Boys and Girls State, the Non-Traditional Student Scholarships for members of The American Legion Family who return to the classroom after an extended absence, and the Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship for former junior and now senior members who are college students that have not yet attained a bachelor's degree. Scholarship applications are due to Units by March 1 and to the Department of Nebraska by March 15. Deb also

discussed the Veterans in the Classroom and the Give 10 to Education programs and said there is an award available for teachers who are also veterans. She encouraged all of us to subscribe to the American Legion Auxiliary's "In the Know" eBulletin and also to donate to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

Department of Nebraska Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Moore explained that members who do not belong to an organized local unit, but who do want to belong to the American Legion Auxiliary and who continue to pay their dues each year, become part of Unit #500. She stated that there is a new scholarship application available on the Department website and that units are to use the colored papers that were sent for any forms which are to be returned to Department. She encouraged every unit to have someone subscribe to ALAMIS and noted that units can pick up their ABC Books from her today.

Department Membership Chair Kimberly Gurley explained her theme of "Vision 20/20." She stated that by having "Vision," we can all help grow the American Legion Auxiliary through membership promotion. Her vision is 100% membership for Nebraska in 2020. Kimberly stated that seven units have currently reached 100% membership, but only one of those – Daykin Unit #198 – is in District 11. She said that we should all have an "elevator speech" ready to go to encourage membership and we should be carrying an application for membership with us at all times. We can even be fined if we don't have one on our person when requested. Finally, Kimberly let everyone know that spouses of female veterans are now eligible for membership, but that great-grandchildren are no longer eligible.

Department Historian Vicki Ozenbaugh brought greetings from National American Legion Auxiliary President Nicole Klapp. Vicki said that President Klapp's theme was the "Health and Well Being of Our Veterans, Military, and Their Families" and that the Americanism Essay Contest this year would use said theme, specifically "How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families?" She said Department of Nebraska Honorary Junior President Allison Wiles' theme is "Art for the Heart – Consoling Our Veterans" while Department of Nebraska President Elizabeth Paes' theme is "Looking to the Future with Pride in the Past." She stated there are funds available this year for a Career and Technical Education Scholarship from the Department of Nebraska for those students who will be attending a community college, trade school, or two-year program at an accredited college. She also mentioned the Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship available on the National level to former junior, now senior, members who are attending college, but have not yet attained their bachelor's degrees. She asked units to tell what they had planned to celebrate the American Legion Auxiliary's 100th Birthday and reminded us all to post it to #ALA100Celebration. Vicki encouraged all units to prepare a Prayer Book and a History Book for the District 11 Convention in February. She mentioned that the LEGION Act had been signed into law over the summer and that this new law enables every veteran who served honorably after December 7, 1941, to join The American Legion. Finally, Vicki stated that the American Legion Auxiliary had reported to Congress that our members had volunteered more than 3 million hours on behalf of our veterans, as well as 470,000 hours for the families of our military servicemembers and 2 million hours on behalf of America's children and youth. All total, Auxiliary members nationwide served 7 million volunteer hours, with a monetary value of more than \$22 million.

President Arlis reminded everyone that she was in need of District Officer reports to be included with the newsletter. If any units haven't been receiving these newsletters, please have your president or designated officer send their e-mail or U.S. Postal address to her. It was noted that Jefferson County now has a County President: Becky McClure of Jansen Unit #358.

President Arlis read a resignation letter from District 11 Vice President Gloria Henderson. The group was asked if anyone would be interested in serving out Gloria's term as District 11 Vice President, but no one stepped forward. A search committee consisting of Judy Bartels, Tobias Unit #311; Lucille

Capek, Milligan Unit #240; and Sue Goodson, Alexandria Unit #194 was appointed to try to find a candidate(s).

President Arlis then mentioned that anyone can donate to the Quilts of Valor program; donations do not have to come only from an Auxiliary unit or from a member of The American Legion family. She stated that Congress had authorized the U.S. Mint to produce a Commemorative Coin celebrating The American Legion's Centennial and that these are available to order, but are selling out quickly. The junior members of Past Department President Beverly Neel's unit are selling t-shirts, and Arlis is also working on a t-shirt design for District 11.

At this point, the American Legion Auxiliary members then rejoined the Legionnaires. The Legion Chaplain gave the closing prayer. The colors were in place, and a hand salute was given. The joint meeting of The American Legion and Auxiliary Fall Round-Up was adjourned.

Lunch was served by Fairbury Auxiliary Unit #24.

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Loree Hendrickson".

Loree Hendrickson

District 11 Secretary-Treasurer