

American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Nebraska

District 11 Fall Round-Up

Date: October 12, 2024	Number of District Officers Present	6
Place: VFW/Legion Hall; Fairbury NE	Additional Members Present	28
	Guests Present	0
	Juniors Present	2

The District 11 American Legion and Auxiliary, Department of Nebraska, Fall Round-Up was held on Saturday, October 12, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., hosted by American Legion Post and Auxiliary Unit #24 of Fairbury, Nebraska, at the VFW/Legion Club.

The joint meeting was called to order by District 11 Commander Robert Eyer. The colors being in place, the American Flag was saluted, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and the American Legion/Auxiliary Preamble were recited. District 11 Chaplain Steve Witmer gave an opening prayer.

Commander Eyer introduced District 11 Legion Baseball Chair, Gary Colson. District 11 Auxiliary President Cindy Lugan introduced: Vicki Ozenbaugh, National Executive Committee Member, Northwestern Division Americanism Chair, Department Distinguished Guest, Department Girls State Chair, Past Department President, Department Past Presidents Parley, Past District 11 President; Deb Albers, National Northwestern Division Vice President, Past Department President, Past District 11 President, and current District 11 Parliamentarian; Vicky Thompson, Fillmore County President, and District 11 Immediate Past President; and Marla Furrow, District 11 Vice-President, which includes Membership and Junior Activities, and Jefferson County President.

President Cindy Lugan introduced John Heineman, Registered Parliamentarian and retired Lincoln Public Schools teacher. John gave an overview of basic Parliamentarian procedures from "Robert's Rules of Order." Handouts were distributed. John presented a copy of the "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, In Brief" to Melva Jurgens from Plymouth Unit #243, who had the closest birthday to his!

The Legion and Auxiliary recessed to their respective groups.

President Cindy began with the salute to the American Flag. Chaplain Jan Holtmeier led the prayer. The POW/MIA empty chair cover was placed, and Resolution 288 was read. The assembly stood in silence in memory of our dead. The assembly sang "Beautiful Nebraska." The Fall Round-Up meeting was called to order by President Cindy Lugan. Host Unit #24 President, Sylvia Cloyd, greeted and welcomed everyone to Fairbury. President Cindy asked that all attending turn off or silence their cell phones or pay a \$2.00 fine for interruptions.

Two Junior members were recognized and introduced as Pages - Cassie and Alex Ladwig of the Fairbury Unit #24. President Cindy recognized Officers and Chairs: Vicki Ozenbaugh, Deb Albers, Department Membership Chair Loree Hendrickson, Vicky Thompson, Marla Furrow, District Chaplain Jan Holtmeier, District Historian Alice Vieselmeyer, District Music Chair Julia Pohlmann, and District Publicity Chair Tammy Steer.

Lucille Capek was recognized as a Past District 11 President. Also recognized were County Presidents: Gloria Henderson, Gage County; Gerry Johnson, Saline County; Donna Schweer, Thayer County; and Marcia Witmer, York County.

Secretary Karen White called the roll. All Counties were represented, and a quorum was established. In attendance were 34 Senior members and two Junior members.

President Lugan appointed Marla Furrow and Vicki Ozenbaugh to the Special Committee to Approve the Minutes. 2023 Fall Round-Up Minutes were included in the program. President Lugan asked for any corrections. The minutes were approved as written. President Lugan brought 25 extra copies of District 11 Directory and members were asked to pay 50 cents a copy. The District bought 20 Unit Guidebooks. Those who requested Guidebooks previously may obtain the copy and pay the \$10.00 cost, if not already paid. The Unit Guidebooks were updated in April. There were six extra copies available.

At the Department Convention, the District Constitution was amended. Deb Albers pointed out changes to be made. The Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules have been updated and copies are available. It will be sent to Department to be added to the District 11 page on the 'nebraskalegionaux.net' website.

President Lugan read a letter received from Barbie Meyer, AEF Chair. Barbie requested us to collect a donation for the AEF Fund. She reminded us that to use these funds you must be a three-year paid continuous member. There are two categories: Financial Hardship and Natural Disaster Funds. Barbie is giving a reward to the District who donates the most money during Fall Round-Up.

Treasurer Karen White gave the 2023-24 Treasurer's Report. Report will be filed. The current Treasurer's Report was given with a balance on hand of \$2,586.53. Treasurer's Report will be filed. Twelve Units have not paid their Per Capita Dues. A motion was made to ratify paying the bill of \$180.14 to President Lugan. The motion was adopted. A motion was made to pay Karen White \$268.85 for reimbursement for the purchase of Unit Guidebooks and two Junior Pins. The motion was adopted. A motion was made and adopted to pay John Heineman \$30 for mileage. It was moved and adopted to pay \$18 to President Cindy Lugan for printing of the Fall Round-Up programs. A budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year will be presented at the District 11 Convention on March 22, 2025.

"This Land Is Your Land" was sung. Vicky Thompson requested a point of privilege to suggest we pass the hat to collect money for the AEF Fund. We collected \$130.23.

Vicki Ozenbaugh distributed pins from Department President Amanda Washburn, who sent her greetings. She asked us to support AEF. It was reported that members no longer need to go through Department to apply for AEF funding but may apply for AEF funding online.

It was reported that information will be coming out in the Department November Newsletter that deals with the programs and contests. Make this information available to all members. Note the date to get Poppy Posters into the Chairperson has changed to April 15, 2025. The Girls State fee remains at \$400. It was suggested to have the Unit pay \$25.00 to help pay expenses for the attendees. The deadline is March 1, 2025, for Units to turn in their applicants.

National Executive Committee member Vicki serves on a subcommittee. Vicki is the Department Past Presidents Parley Chair. The PPP honor Past Presidents and get together to go over innovative ideas. She is on the Northwestern Division Americanism committee. The Northwestern Division includes seven states. National/Division Zoom meetings can be attended by anyone. The essay contest theme is "What does America the Beautiful Mean to Me (regarding Veterans and Military)?" Get this information out to the schools. For more ideas go to the National Website. Be sure to report activities.

National Northwestern Division Vice-President Deb Albers distributed Challenge Cards. National President Trish Ward sent greetings and encouraged a donation of \$35.00 to receive a deck of the Challenge Cards. The cards give ideas to challenge members to work on being involved in the Auxiliary and with the Veterans. Trish Ward's theme is "Lead the Way, Through Energy." The donations will be sent to the National Foundation for grants to enable the group to help our Veterans. This will grow the Foundation. Deb's theme is "A Measure of Service." She gave a tape measure to all to measure service in volunteer hours, mileage, money, and time.

Department Membership Chair Loree Hendrickson spoke about how hard it has been to meet Membership goals. How can the deficit be made up in lost membership? Nebraska's goal this year is 15,490. There must be a gain of five members per Unit this year to keep up the goal. Plymouth has been making their goals of 100 percent or more for multiple years. From the Department, if a unit holds a membership event by Veterans Day, the Unit will be entered into a drawing for a \$50.00 prize. If the unit attains 80% of the goal by December 7, 2024, the Unit will be entered into a drawing for a \$50.00 prize. If the Unit can recruit or rejoin four new members by March 15, 2025, the Unit will be entered into a drawing for a \$50.00 prize. If the Unit attains 100% by April 20, 2025, the Unit will be entered into a drawing. Loree assigned Districts to a Husker Sports for goal watching. District 11's sport is Husker Volleyball.

For PUFL Members, the Unit may receive the Unit share of the membership fee. For State Life Members, the \$18.00 extra must be paid by the Department. Department requested the Units pay for the State Life Members' extra charge.

Vicky Thompson reported the Fillmore County Meeting will be on January 5, 2025. It was decided to have one meeting a year. The money-making project was working at the Fillmore

County Fair to check in entries, help judges, write descriptions, and pay out premiums for Open Class entrants.

Marla Furrow asked members to remember the mission to support and honor our Veterans. Use support for Military families, community and youth for talking points to get new members to join. Always carry an application with you. Applications were available at the table. District 11 has 266 Junior members. Marla requested each Unit to email a list of their Junior member's names and contact information to her. The District 11 Junior Conference date for 2025 is not set but estimated to be in March 2025 at Dorchester. Kendall Kasl, from Dorchester, is the District 11 Honorary Junior President. Department Honorary Junior President is Shia Rasmussen from St. Paul. Her project is "Birds of a Feather," to provide funds for bird feeders and bird food for Veterans Homes. Jefferson County has a project for Adopt a Room at Victory Park Apartments in Lincoln. The Rosewood Gavel goes to Virginia Unit #367, for 84% membership by October 1, 2024.

It was reported that the Prayer Book and History Book deadline is March 1, 2025. These need to be mailed to Jan Holtmeier, Chaplain and Alice Vieselmeyer, Historian. These chairs may accept them until March 10. Guidelines for Prayer Books and History Books will be sent out in the Department November newsletter.

Julia Pohlmann, District 11 Music Chair, asked everyone to just keep singing!

Tammy Steer, District 11 Publicity Chair, is from Crete and volunteered to help take pictures.

The ABC Book is available on the Auxiliary website (nebraskalegionaux.net) in both PDF and DOC formats. Unit Presidents should have received a copy.

Karen White was District 11's representative to the National Convention this year. Her report was in the booklet.

President Lugan continues to work on wreaths for Purple Heart recipients. Her theme this year is "Military Families Matter." Her symbol is Pedro the Penguin. Pedro helps prepare children for emergency situations, resiliency and coping and many other types of emergencies. FEMA and Red Cross have booklets for free so we can get a copy of these booklets into grade schools in District 11. President Cindy gave her report and encouraged networking and communication to share ideas and information.

Let President Cindy know if an event is planned so it can be included in the District 11 newsletter. Invite President Cindy to your meetings. The Department wants reports from the Districts at the Department Mid-Year Conference, January 17-19, 2025 at Norfolk Lodge and Suites. Units, please turn in a summary of events and work completed by your Unit for the last six months to President Cindy by December 1, 2024.

Look at all the information on "nebraskalegionaux.net" website.

The Department Convention is in Columbus this year at Quality Inn, June 26-29, 2025. District 11 Convention is March 22, 2025.

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Fairbury Unit raffled off a beautiful quilt. Alice Vieselmeyer received the quilt. The Fairbury Unit gave the floral centerpieces as door prizes to someone at each table.

"God Bless America" was sung.

Chaplain Jan gave a closing prayer.

The 2024 Fall Round-Up meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Karen White
District 11 Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes Approval Committee

/s Marla Furrow

/s Vicki Ozenbaugh

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