

AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY

Department of Michigan

November 2024—issue #5

2024-25 Department Officer

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1st Vice Pam Lein

*2nd Vice Nancy Middleton

3rd Vice Maureen Jackson

Chaplain Karen Krumm

Sgt-at-Arms Jennifer Zelony

Treasurer Kathy Keizer

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Hospital Trisha Rosenburg

Scholarship Andrea Ray

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John Dingell VA Cel Rose Solak

District II Pres. Pat Michalski

District V Pres. Patsy Watkins

District VII Pres. Barb Robare

Exec. Secretary Nancy Middleton

*temporary

BRING BACK THE BASICS

with President Gloria Hall



Hello Ladies

I hope many of you are buzzy bees at your local hives. I know you're getting your service reports ready by mailing them in or emailing to your Department Officer - Right?

I have been busy. I received an invitation to visit the Perry Post #4064 for their Fall Festival. It was a very nice, relaxing and fun day. And the beautiful weather cooperated too. I enjoyed meeting and talking with several of the Officers and people who attended. Did I mention Nancy Middleton came along for the ride. We were stuffed with hot dogs, cupcakes, popcorn and apple cider. Some of my tiny little bee buddies were flying and wanting cider too. Nancy was seriously eyeing the blue cotton candy but controlled herself! I even got into the groove and had my face painted with a flower and a bee. The painting job on my face turned out pretty good. Nancy and I both had our fortunes told. The tiny tikes were having fun in the bouncy house. I had fun just watching and laughing with them. No. I did not go in! Thank you, Allison, for the invitation!

I have got a bee in my bonnet and am ready for traveling. Have an event you would like me to attend? I am up for it. Advertise it on our website. Contact our webmaster Pat Michalski at: amvetman@chartermi.net and she will accommodate you. Nothing is too big or too small. A larger hive is out there - utilized it. What's better than free marketing!

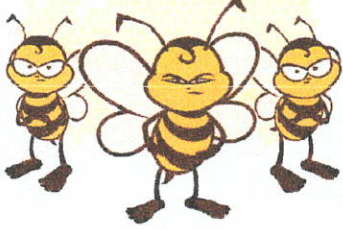
I would like to reiterate the end of this month is coming up fast. Our Officers are eagerly waiting to get your service reports. Need help? Contact a specific Officer - they are listed on the website. They are here to help you. Have the report ready. Send it early! I am doing my right now. I am reporting for all six programs at 126. I am also listing a fundraiser on the website. Want to see what the buzz is about? Go to the website. Hint: It is called a 20/20. Good luck to all who get in on this fundraiser for scholarship.

Everyone have a spooky Halloween. I will be working a Texas Hold'em for the Department on Halloween Night. Remember the candy is for the kids lips - not for your hips! (Opps! Did I say that out loud?)

Buzzing for Veterans,
Gloria Hall, President



THE BEE TEAM



MEMBERSHIP

Pam Lein, 1st Vice President

The Chairman's contest with annual members numbered and a number was chosen on the last day of September. No member matched and a drawing will be done again at the end of October.

Please do not forget to review your Honorary members for their continuing membership. This is done each Fall at your meeting with a vote taken and noted in your minutes. Dues must be sent in (\$15 for renewal) postmarked no later than December 5th. They need to go into National and receive no later than December 31st. Every local may sign up for 2 new Honorary members each year along with the Honorary members they already have.

Nancy is still processing membership even though she has not received the cards. She is waiting to get them and has no control over when this will happen. She also has not received the roster from the National H.Q.

DEADLINES DATES FOR MEMBERSHIP-

Honorary, Renewals to Life membership must be postmarked by: 12/15/24

Life member assessment is \$3 and must be received by the Department on or before 12/31/24. If this assessment is not received by the end of December, your Auxiliary will not be in good standing.

Please remember, when filling out your D&R forms, they are current, last name first, and in alphabetical order. Also, it is important if you are handwriting these to make sure your spelling is clear and precise, please!!

PLEASE do not hold your renewal until the end of the year. You can send them along to Nancy Middleton.

Regards

Department 1st Vice Pamela Lein

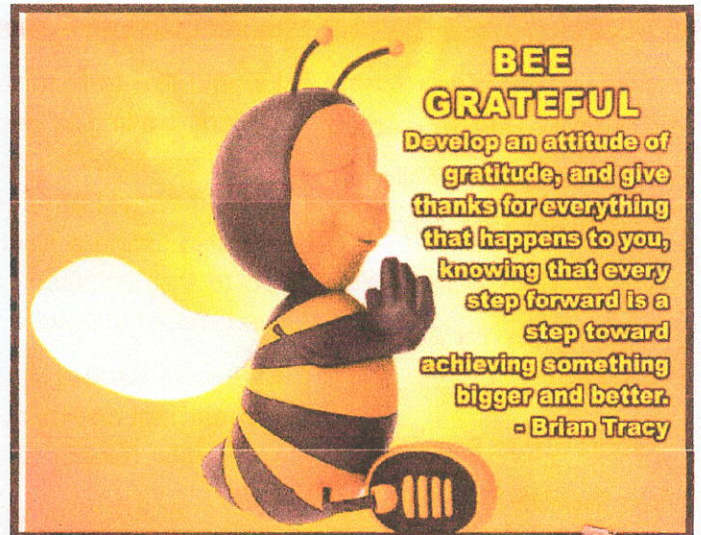
HOSPITAL NEWS

by Trisha Rosenberg, Hospital Officer

This time of year is hard on our homeless veterans. The VAVS Representatives are challenged with requests to support Homeless Veterans who come to the VA hospital for assistance who are not served as inpatient veterans. The VAVS representatives are in need of your support. Please consider a project to assist at the District and the local level which will make a Veteran smile.

Thank you for all that you do.

Trisha Rosenberg
Hospital Officer





CHILD WELFARE

Nancy Middleton, 2nd Vice President

I sure hope I will be getting midyear reports from ALL our local Auxiliaries. It is so important to report our service work. Please remember they **MUST** be on current updated forms (dated 5/24 on the bottom of the page). I know it is early, but I have received 3 so far.

On October 22nd, President Gloria Hall, National Americanism Officer Faye Richardson-Green and I made a trip to Harper Woods for #57's Stick Bingo for Penrickton. We had a great time. It was fun seeing the surprise on Maureen Jackson's faces. We didn't tell her we were going to be there. We read about the event in the last newsletter and decided to go. I personally have never been to a stick bingo so I really didn't know what to expect—but it was for Penrickton so I just had to find out. It was almost like 'old home' week. There were six Past Dept. Presidents there (Bert, Faye, Rose, Sel-etha, Maureen and myself) along with our current President Gloria.



Please be generous with your donations to this amazing place. Last year Bonnie Rojas did a wonderful job raising money—\$9,777.13. I think we can break the \$10,000 total this year if we all work on it. It is definitely something to shoot for. Since I am 2nd Vice/Child Welfare at my local Auxiliary, I am also working on projects for Penrickton.

Another great program this time of year for children is Toys for Tots. My family goes overboard at Christmas. We had a few 'lean' years and did all our shopping at the Dollar Store—but we had a wonderful time opening some pretty silly gifts. It breaks my heart to think about kids who don't get to open even one present. I try to do my share—please try and do the same.



FUNNIES!

for old people!

★ **These are not gray hairs!
They are wisdom highlights.**

★ **I've decided: Whatever age I
am is the new 30!**

★ **Love is like one long, sweet
dream. Marriage is the alarm
clock.**

★ **Apparently saying, "Oh, this
old thing?" isn't an appropriate
way to introduce my wife.**

★ **I never knew what happi-
ness was until I got married—
and then it was too late.**

★ **One benefit of old age is
that your secrets are always
safe with your friends ... be-
cause they can't remember
them!**

★ **Old age makes us great mul-
titaskers. Why, I can sneeze
and pee at the same time!**



SGT-AT-ARMS

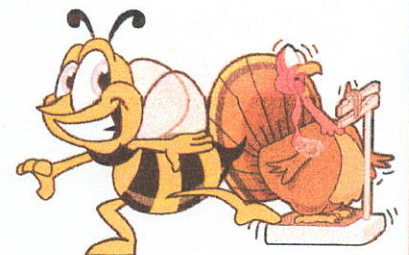
By Jennifer Zelony, Sgt-at-Arms



Prepare the meeting room before your meeting. What all needs to be addressed before all members show up: Placement of the Flag if it is going to be already set before people get there. Have enough chairs and table layouts. Head table, and table with chairs so members are not facing with their back towards the head table.

Make sure if any copies need to be made before the meeting starts, you have them done. Also make sure the room is clean and the members who used the room before you didn't leave anything that needs to be removed before your meeting. Make sure if you want to have water in the room you do that.

When members start to arrive, check their cards while they enter the room.





COMMUNITY SERVICE

By Maureen Jackson, 3rd Vice President



GIVE A GIFT OF LIFE

November is a month of giving thanks for our family and blessings. It is also leading up to a time of giving as Christmas is approaching. During this time let us remember that we can give a gift of life to someone who is in desperate need. By donating blood you can help save a life of an accident victim, a disaster victim or a person waiting for a major surgery.

We have all been alarmed by the many storms and fires and other disasters across our country. One way you can help is by your prayers. Another way you can help is by donating your blood. Encourage your family and friends to donate also.

The Blood Banks are always in need. When disasters occur, the need increases 100 fold. Don't forget you can take your donation on the Community Service report. The new evaluation is \$300. per pint. See more information in my Bulletin on the website!

Any questions or comments, contact me at kdgmo2@gmail.com or 586-876-1827

God Bless you and your families. and Happy Thanksgiving!

PARLIAMENTARIAN NEWS

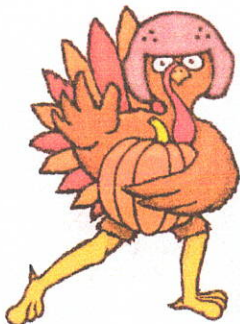
by Bert Lema—Parliamentarian



The updated National Constitution/Bylaws can now be found online, as can the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Manual. You can find these items by going to www.amvetsaux.org. From there, select Publications, Documents and look through the list to find whichever document you seek.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, the Manual provides members and Officers with so much useful information! Not only does it have office-specific information, but it also has information about uniforms, performing memorial services, swearing-in ceremonies and much, much more. If you cannot find what you need to know in your instructions, check the manual.

In addition to going through the National Auxiliary website, you will soon be able to go to our Michigan website, www.amvetsauxdeptmi.org to link to the same documents.



On a related note, take a minute to review the items available on our website. For example, expanded information about our programs can be found in the Department Officers Bulletins section under the Department Officers Page. You can also find your Local Officers' Instructions in the same section.

As always, when you have a question, you can always email me at lema81@wowway.com or give me a call at 586.214.1019 and leave a message. I always try to return calls and messages within 24-48 hours.



WAYS and MEANS

by Patsy Watkins, Chairman

Fall Conference was wonderful this year. I am looking forward to seeing a lot more new people for convention next year. Nancy Middleton made the quarter auction a fun and enjoyable time for all. Thanks to Gloria Hall, Kathy Keizer, Kathy Cross, Bert Lema and any others who donated items for the auction.

The Chinese Auction was a great success. I hope everyone was pleased with the item and/or items they were successful in winning. Any type of items you would like to see in future Chinese Auctions, please let me know. Plans are already in the works for the convention raffle next year.

Looking for white elephant items for our ladies retreat in April at Higgins Lake. Also, ideas for the menus at Higgins Lake and Sec meeting in February.

I will have a complete report on Fall Conference for Ways and Means in the December newsletter. Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season and safe travels.

Patsy Watkins
Ways and Means Chairman
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email - sassyjo1027@yahoo.com
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DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES AND WEBSITE BULLETINS DEADLINES ARE NOVEMBER 15, 2024



FUNNIES!

for old people!

- ★ At my age, the only pole dancing I do is holding onto the safety bar in the bathtub.
- ★ The older we get, the earlier it gets late.
- ★ Old people are just young people who have been alive for a very, very long time.
- ★ Age is a state of whine.
- ★ It's not polite to ask a woman her age—especially if she knows karate.

COMING SOON

The BEE
Calendar





BEE VOLUNTEERS
FEEL ALIVE
 SUPPORT YOUR HIVE

MVH-GR HOME

By Leora Williamson, GR Home Rep.

The Activities staff at MVH-GR continue to amaze me with their creativity. In August I took part in an outdoor celebration, which featured a 3-man band playing the oldies and goodies from the 50's and 60's. Some people got up and danced. (I was able to pay for the band from my allotment as the Rep. to the facility. That is such a good feeling.) There was also corn dogs, ice cream and lemonade. The classic cars were fun to see. At least 50 of them were lined up in the parking lot in front of the "old" building. There was a water balloon fight, and an opportunity for the members to "dunk" their favorite member of the staff into a dunk tank. Those who couldn't hit the mark hard enough to cause the chair to collapse, got a little help from Becki Smit, leader of Activities.

Then in September the Volunteers were honored at an appreciation banquet. A really great meal was catered in and included several yummy desserts. The theme was "Volunteers Light the Way", and on the back of the agenda it read "There's nothing little about the light you shine. It does not go unnoticed." On their BIG screen they showed some videos of volunteers and members interacting. Before closing we were presented with Certificates and a pin that reads "Outstanding Volunteer".

Later in September was their "Hoe-Down". The staff and some of the members were dressed in Western clothes and again there was food and fun.



FROM THE SECRETARY

By Nancy Middleton, Secretary

I have been in contact with most of our local 1st Vice Presidents concerning the renewal cards. As of October 24, I do not have them. I am also out of the new member cards. A supply was ordered from Headquarters—and they don't have any either. I don't know what else to say. Hopefully they will come soon.

I have been sending copies of the new/renew D&R's just so the locals are aware these have been processed on the Department level. I will be sending cards when I can get them. I really can't do much else.

We are still doing the Chairman's \$50 contest for annual members. Each member from last year has been given a number. Pam Lein, our Dept. 1st Vice, draws a number and calls me. I check to see which member it's assigned to. We check that Auxiliary's roster to see if her dues have been sent in.

The September number was drawn on Sept. 30th. The name drawn was Deborah Shown from Aux. #120. Her dues were not paid to the Dept. The next \$50 drawing will be October 31. Hopefully we will have a winner. Get your D&Rs in with your renewals. Who knows? Maybe this year on Halloween we will pick someone from YOUR Auxiliary and we can sent her a check to help with the Thanksgiving turkey—or with Christmas shopping.



P.S. Just in case you were wondering, President Gloria's future includes having a romantic involvement with a wealthy man—so said the Fortune Teller at Aux. #4064's festival. Since Gloria and Jean just celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary, we probably should not let Jean in on this information!!!



The fortune teller also said the man is a jerk! WATCH OUT GLORIA!!!!