

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF OREGON
MID-WINTER DEC - ZOOM
JANUARY 9, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Department President, Debra Godwin.
Colors were in place, so we rendered a hand salute to the Flag of our Country.
Department Chaplain, Phyllis McDaniel gave the opening prayer.
Americanism Chairman, Donna Hartwell, led us all in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.
Pam Seelye, Department Parliamentarian repeated the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary with the rest of us following along.

Department President, Debra Godwin
As Linda introduces our officers, our roll call will be taken.

INTRODUCTION OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Debra Godwin, Department President
Cindy Soria, Department Vice President, Membership Chairman
Linda Liebenow, Department Secretary
Helen Hisaw, Department Treasurer
Phyllis McDaniel, Department Chaplain
Geanne Horne, Department Historian
Pam Seelye, Department Parliamentarian
Krisann Owens, National Executive Committeeperson
Jody Marsh, Alternate NEC
Suzanne Driver, Department Sgt-at-Arms

INTRODUCTION OF DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

District #1	Catherine Brockmann	(Debra Ashe, VP)
District #2	Gregoria Hernandez	(Glena Smith, VP)
District #3	Roberta Peebler	(Suzanne Driver, VP)
District #4	Donna Hartwell	(Pamela Mize VP, absent)
District #5	Ginny Williams (excused)	(Denise Mitchell, VP, absent)
District #6	Maggie LaMont	(Mary Ward, VP absent)
District #7	Vacant	Vacant
District #8	Trudie McGriff	(Barbara Sumner, VP, absent)
District #9	Frankie Trask	(Betty Adams, VP absent)
District #10	Linda Schmidt	(Shirley Torrey, VP absent)

INTRODUCTION OF PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Patty Cooper, PDP (1998-99), Past Western Division National Vice President (2000-2001)
Krisann Owens, PDP (2018-2019, 2003-2004)
Trudie McGriff, PDP (2010-2011)
Jody Marsh, PDP (2011-2012)
Pam Seelye, PDP (2012-2013)
Linda Liebenow, PDP (2014-2015)
Angie McKinney, PDP (2015-2016)
Helen Hisaw, PDP (2017-2018)
Kathi Karnowski, PDP (2020-2021) Past Presidents Parley

INTRODUCTION OF DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

Administrative	Jody Marsh, Chairman Helen Hisaw, Linda Liebenow, members
Americanism	Donna Hartwell
Audit	Vacant
Aux. Emergency Fund	Margie DeMoss (absent)
Chairman Coordinator	Karol Satterfield (absent)
Children & Youth	Angie McKinney
Community Service	Denise Mitchell (absent)
Constitution & Bylaws, Policies	Pam Seelye
Convention Chairman	Jody Marsh
Distinguished Guest Chairman	Ginny Williams (excused)
Education and Scholarship	Edna Redhead
Finance	Helen Hisaw, Treasurer Maggie LaMont, Gea Clausier (absent) Suzanne Driver, members
Girls State Commission	Krisann Owens, Director Cindy Hillyard (absent) member, Gea Clausier (absent), member
Junior Activities	Tawnya Lege (absent)
Leadership	Cyndi Dahl (absent)
Legislative	Vacant
Membership	Cindy Soria
National Security	Trudie McGriff
Past Presidents Parley	Kathi Karnowski
Poppy & Poppy Poster	Dianne Standing (absent)
Public Relations	Yvonne Drury (absent)
VA&R	Marie Larson, Chairman Linda Liebenow, member
Portland VA Medical Center	
Gift Shop Coordinator	Linda Liebenow
Rose Court	Geanne Horne
Transplant Unit	Becky Crosby (absent)

Pending Approval

Roseburg VA Medical Center
Gift Shop Coordinator Carol Hunt (absent)
Oregon Veterans Home
Gift Shop Coordinator Geanne Horne
Lebanon Veterans Home
Gift Shop Coordinator

Department President, Debra Godwin,
You have received minutes of the Fall DEC, October 10, 2021. There were two housekeeping corrections made, Glenna Smith's name was misspelled, and Geanne Horne identified herself as being a member of Unit 70 instead of 71.

Roll Call vote of approval of DEC minutes, October 10, 2021, with housekeeping corrections

Department President, Debra Godwin-Yes
Department Vice President, Cindy Soria-yes
National Executive Committee Person, Krisann Owens-Yes
District #1 President, Catherine Brockmann-Yes
District #2 President, Gregoria Hernandez-Yes
District #3 President, Bobbi Peebler-Yes
District #4 President, Donna Hartwell-Yes
District #5 President, Ginny Williams-excused
District #6 President, Maggie LaMont-Yes
District #7 President, vacant
District #8 President, Trudie McGriff-Yes
District #9 President, Frankie Trask-Yes
District #10 President, Linda Schmidt-Yes
Yes-11, No-0

Rules of the DEC read by Secretary

Article V, Section 2

The Department Executive Committee shall be comprised of the Department President, Department Vice President, Department Secretary, Department Treasurer, the District Presidents, National Executive Committee person, Department Parliamentarian, Department Chaplain, Department Historian, Department Sgt.-at-Arms, and Department Assistant Sgt.-at-Arms.

The Department Secretary, Department Treasurer, Department Parliamentarian, Department Chaplain, Department Historian, Department Sgt.-at-Arms, and Assistant Sgt.-at-Arms shall be members of the Department Executive Committee, with all rights except the right to vote.

All Past Department Presidents in good standing in their Units shall be members for life of the Department Executive Committee, with all rights except the right to vote.

Ratification of appointments

Department Chairman

Rose Court, Geanne Horne, Unit 71
Poppy and Poppy Poster, Dianne Standing, Unit 2

Consent was given.

Reports from Department Officers.

Department Secretary, Linda Liebenow, no report

Department Treasurer, Helen Hisaw

The finance committee has completed the internal audit and the CPA has been engaged to complete the 990 for filing. An extension was filed in preparation.

The balance of VA&R funds was distributed with the Budget to Actual.

Producing a Budget to Actual so early in the month doesn't allow for all the checks and balances.

Thanks to Maggie LaMont, we found an incorrect formula on the spread sheet- the changes are Page 3

Total operating expense is \$30,634.08, Net income is \$42,783.33

We believe that we have all the receipts in for the gift shops although maybe not all the reports.

Our VA&R accounts, following the gift shops are not being utilized as expected.

Maybe we should consider moving some of the total to our investments as the bank account is consistently over the insured amount of \$250,000.00. This could be a recommendation for the Spring DEC.

There were no expenses from District Presidents. Again, if you have expenses and want to donate them back, please fill out the form. Not turning in a request does not put the money in your selected fund.

I want to thank everyone who is working diligently to control our operating expenses. Also, all those working so hard on our membership which is our main form of income.

We have some big expenses coming up but at this time we are running at about 48% which is good.

Questions,

Linda Liebenow, Department Secretary, you mentioned considering moving some of the gift shop money to investments, if that is done would it be set aside under the name of the gift shop so that it is not just lumped into the investments?

Helen, Department Treasurer, no, the money in the investments is separated by percentage for the VA&R, so it wouldn't necessarily be gift shop money, it would be VA&R money. Which would increase their percentage. Right now, 38% of our investment funds belong to VA&R so any money moved to the investment account would increase that percentage.

Would I need to make that request 30 days before the next DEC?

Pam Seelye, Department Parliamentarian, yes, anything voted on needs to be out to the DEC body 30 days before.

Helen, Department Treasurer, we still have some big expenses coming up like convention and an in-person DEC but basically the bank account is over the Federally insured amount, consistently.

Debra Godwin, Department President, so Helen what you are saying is that we don't spend enough of our money in VA&R?

Helen, Department Treasurer, yes, our VA&R programs could be back up and running and spending more.

Suzanne Drive, Department Sgt.-at-Arms, could we check with the Transplant Unit and find out why they haven't been spending the money? I would hate to move money and then a few months from now say that they are back in business.

Pending Approval

Helen, Department Treasurer, that should be a conversation to have Madame President, myself and Marie Larson, VA&R Chairman, so that we could investigate why the money isn't moving. It doesn't cost us anything to put money into the investment account or take it out.

Suzanne Drive, Department Sgt.-at- Arms, what amount of money out of this total do you feel would be reasonable to move? \$20,000?

Helen, Department Treasurer, I would say between \$30,00 and \$50,000.

Everyone is doing a great job of trying to control the expenses. We did some pretty big cuts and we have learned to live with it.

Reports from District Presidents

None

Department President Report

On the way home from Department a couple weeks ago, I realized that my year is almost halfway over. It kind of broke my heart a little bit because it feels like there is so much that we need to do. I haven't gotten a lot of travel time in; I have had some travel plans cancelled for weather and for COVID. I have gotten to go several places which was fantastic and fun. I have learned a lot and met wonderful members.

I want to thank all of you for the Christmas cards. It was heartfelt and some really neat notes of encouragement among the cards. It boosted my motivation and made me realize just how dedicated our members are and how much we are a family. The Christmas scrapbook was made by Cindy Soria, Department Vice President, and it was beautiful. It was presented to me at our Department Christmas party by Past Department President Gea Clausier. I sat and thought a lot about what I could do with the donations to give back to the Auxiliary. I wanted to go to Mission Training, so I am using part of that money to go to Mission Training in Las Vegas. I will be there with Gea Clausier, Cindy Soria and Ginny Williams. I am so excited; I can't wait to go.

We have sent Jody and Helen out for training and only one member shows up, I feel that is kind of a waste of our budget. At a Department meeting we learned about the Legion's traveling training team, we asked why we couldn't join them. Now we will be pairing with the Legion to go out in the field and do training classes. We will do full day training classes. As many of you as possible that could go would be great. I would love to come back from Mission Training and hear that it was successful. The first training class is going to be January 29, 2022, at Roseburg Post #16 from 9am to 4pm. Linda Liebenow, Pam Seelye and Krisann Owens will be the teachers on that trip. District Presidents, please pass this on to the members in your District so that they have an opportunity to attend.

I was reading the Book of Reports and there are some amazing reports in there. But when I got to Angie McKinney's Children and Youth report, I need to thank her for the amount of work that she put into her Book of Reports. Angie, thank you, you did a phenomenal job and I wanted you to be recognized for that.

On my travels, Veterans Day I was invited to go to Newberg Post #57 stand on the street and wave flags. It was cold, rainy, and windy but they were there in full force. After that I headed to Post #21 where they had a free dinner for our Veterans where they served over 114 Veterans. I went to the District #2 meeting. Gregoria Hernandez, District #2 President, had handouts for the members and went over the information at the meeting. Department Christmas party was December 4th at Post #21. The party was great for all those that came. Some spent a lot of time in "jail". The money received from the "Jail and

Pending Approval

Bail” and raffle was distributed between the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL projects. I went to Wreaths Across America at Willamette National Cemetery. My first time and one of the most emotional trips that I have taken. It is very touching and until you are there to see it and laying the wreaths, you don’t know or understand the meaning behind it. I plan to go every year from now on. District #8 Christmas dinner at Post #150 was fabulous and of course, I found the Auxiliary ladies in the kitchen cooking. I had a chance to look around the Post and visit the very organized Auxiliary room. They are all one big family there. Thank you to District #8 and to Post #150 for everything. On Tuesday, I got a frantic call from Flynn Phillips, Department Adjutant. The National Vice Commander, Jim (can’t pronounce his last name), is coming and his significant other, Denise Conrad, who is the Auxiliary National Community Service chair is coming with him and what could I do to get her out of the hotel room. I have commitments and the weekend is already full and then I get a text from Gea Clausier. Gea said that she would take care of Denise. Gea brought her to Post #21, and we got to have lunch and to meet her. Denise is very humble and very knowledgeable; I learned a lot from her. The next day Linda Schmidt, Catherine Brockmann and Gea took her shopping, and they had a great time. At the banquet Saturday Denise spoke highly of our Auxiliary here in Oregon and how comfortable that she felt and how included. The included part, to me, made a big impact because we want to make everyone feel included.

When we have a deceased member, the info needs to be sent to Department. Cindy Hillyard is finding them on Facebook and then she does the research to make sure that they are entered in ALAMIS correctly. There is a form to fill out.

Upcoming dates that I will be out.

January 18, District #8 meeting

January 19, Krisann Owens, Cindy Soria, Donna Hartwell and I will be heading to Williams Unit #50 to present their Charter.

January 29 and 30, Mission Training

February 6, Four Chaplains Memorial

February 12, District #2 meeting

March 12, District #3 meeting

Helen Hisaw, Department Treasurer, Madam President, because there is no one here from District #5, I wanted to let you know that they set a date for District #5 Roundup, March 18 and 19.

Jody Marsh, Admin Chairman,

Can you give some details on the Four Chaplains service that you are attending?

President Debra, the Legion has a flyer out and Cindy Hillyard sent it out in an email. It is being held at McKabe Chapel in Yamhill County. It starts at 12noon with a movie about the Four Chaplains at 1:30pm. On February 6, 2022. It was in the What’s Happening.

Reports from Chairman

Administrative Committee, Jody Marsh, Chairman

Admin is working with our leadership and our staff trying to ensure that everything is working well. I’ve heard no complaints, so I am assuming that is a good thing. If you are having issues, communicate with

Pending Approval

your District President, or if District Presidents have heard information give me a call and let me know. It is very rare that it is an insurmountable fix, but it can appear insurmountable if we are not discussing the issue.

Convention, Jody Marsh, Chairman

Convention is targeted to be hosted by the Aloha Legion family. We are working on securing hotels and menus. The advertising price list has gone out. If your Unit or Legion family would like to place an ad, it is a great opportunity for people to know who are, what you do. It is beneficial for the host Post because there is a lot of work and that is where they get the income to move forward with their planning.

President Debra, has anyone received the information? Has it gone out only to the Legion?

Jody, that is entirely possible. I can check on that.

Membership, Cindy Soria, Chairman

We are doing good, and I am proud of so many Units.

We are going to draw for the incentives that I have for December 31.

We have four Units that made 100% by December 31, 27 Units that have made 75%, and 6 Units that have joined five new members. Thanks for such hard work.

The winners are:

100% by December goes to Carl B. Fenton, Unit #20, \$100

75% by December 31 goes to George St. Denis, Unit #140, \$50

Join five new members by December 31 goes to Hillsboro Unit #6, \$50

My plan it to start talking to the Unit Presidents and see what we can do to help the Units that are below 60%.

Any Questions?

President Debra, how many goal Units do you have?

Cindy, we have four, Carl B. Fenton Unit #20, Sheridan Unit #75, Williams Unit #50, and Hermiston Unit #37.

Maggie LaMont, District 6 President. George St. Denis has not had 10 members for several years, are they eligible for the drawing?

Cindy, that is a good question, can I refer that to another DEC member?

Maggie LaMont, they don't have meetings, so are they compliant?

Pam Seelye, Constitution and Bylaws Chairman, this is a sticky position, and we are working on this. We have nothing in our Constitution and Bylaws what a Unit in good standing is. We always assumed that you had to have 10 members, have regular meetings, and you had to work An Auxiliary program. Our Constitution, right now, says "as per Standing Rules" and there is nothing in the Standing Rules that says

Pending Approval

what a Unit is good standing is. So, per our documents, we can't say they aren't eligible. It wasn't stated that the Unit has to have 10 members to be in the running to win.

Helen Hisaw, Department Treasurer, if they have to have 10 members to establish a Unit, then they are no longer required to have 10 members to continue that Unit?

Pam, Department Constitution and Bylaws Chairman, our Constitution and Bylaws says nothing about that except that you have 10 members to establish the Unit. This is one of the things that we are working on.

Jody Marsh, Admin Chairman

Is there nothing in the National Constitution and Bylaws?

Pam, Department Constitution and Bylaws Chairman, it just states 10 members to form a Unit.

Linda Liebenow, Department Secretary, I believe that Cindy Hillyard contacted National questioning this and their response was that they require 10 members to start a Unit and they don't really have anything stated that you have to continue to have the 10 members.

Cindy Soria, Department Membership Chairman, it seems like this is a gray area and we need to address this. At this point, since I have already announced it, I will let it stand. Is that OK with the DEC body?

No comments.

Keep racing!

Education and Scholarship, Edna Redhead, Chairman

My mid-year report is in the Book of Reports.

I am disappointed that I only received reports from three Units (one of which was mine; one reported no activity; and one arrived after the 12/15 due date).

Earlier in the year our Western Division Chair, Joan Cannon, contacted me to introduce herself and I've had several communications with her over the past few months. In her November newsletter, she stated that National was not requiring mid-year reports. I had to contact her regarding a scholarship question and asked her about this. She responded that she was not expected to do a mid-year report and did not expect one from me. However, she later communicated that although she was not required to do a mid-year report, National did want her to send information regarding what was happening in her Division so I did end up sending her a mid-year report.

She also said that States can make their own rules about whether or not to require them. Although I did not receive an answer to my question about whether or not mid-year reports were required, I did send one to Department.

If Unit reports are not required at mid-year, how is the information gathered?

Department President, Debra

Edna, that is a good question. So mid-year reports are not due to National, but we are asking our Units to send them to their Department Chairman so that they can write a report, at least for the Book of Reports. We still need to communicate with each other what we are doing in our Units.

Pending Approval

Malia Smith, winner of the 2019-2020 ALA Department Scholarship was granted an extension of one year to meet the requirement for that scholarship. Malia has had some personal problems this past year and has moved to Hawaii. I was able to contact her on 12/22 and she told me that she will be enrolling at the University of Hawaii in Manila and will be sending certification requirements to Department by May 11, 2022, the deadline.

Did our winner from last year, Rachel Lohberger send in her requirements?

Linda Liebenow, Department Secretary,
I don't know but I will find out.

REMINDER: the following scholarship applications are due to Units by March 1st and to me by March 15th:

- Non-Traditional Student Scholarship
- Spirit of Youth Scholarship
- Junior Loyalty Scholarship
- ALA Department of Oregon Scholarship

Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship is now an on-line only application and is to be submitted directly to National by March 1st. It is the only scholarship that Units will not be judging this year.

Children and Youth, Angie McKinney, Chairman

The Children and Youth program has had some changes this year. The Josh dog program has come to an end because we can't get the dogs from the manufacturer. The Star-Spangled Kids program has been moved to Americanism as the program fits into alignment with that program.

National has adopted a new program called Youth Caregiver Award. The Youth Caregiver Award gives new recognition and opportunities for the Children and Youth program. This award can go to youth that provide care, comfort, assistance, and support to loved ones, friends, family members and neighbors without being paid. A certificate is available for download from ALA National website for the Units to present. They are really pushing for it this year. It is a chance for kids to work with their families and still get recognized for the work that they do.

Department President, Debra,
Also, it is our National President, Kathy Daudistel's focus on Caregivers.

They are also asking that we make donations to the Child Welfare Foundation. So far, Oregon has only donated \$470. They would like each Department to do a fund raiser to support this program. There are labels that you can affix to Pringle type cans to collect donations. You can download the labels at ALA member portal, click on the Child Welfare liaison.

There is a surprise looming in the future. National will be launching a special Children and Youth project this month and every Department will be involved. Information will be coming out in the very near future.

In my Book of Reports, I have included the Children and Youth checklist

Pending Approval

April is Children and Youth month, please wear purple during the month of April, it is a sign for Military Children.

April 15 is Purple Up Day to support Military Children, plan an activity on that day.

April 30 is Military Brats Day, for those who grew up in the military.

Send pictures of our activities to National website.

Military Childs table setting ceremony at your Birthday celebrations.

Join the Children and Youth Facebook page

The young SAL can join the Juniors working on the Badge program

Communications

Department Secretary, Linda Liebenow

The only thing I have is to remind those that gave reports on the floor, please send me a copy to help with the minutes.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Upcoming Events

Roundup, March 18 and 19

National President's visit, May 16-19, more information later

District 4 Caucus, April 23, in Grants Pass, 12pm lunch, meeting to follow

District 5 Caucus, May 7, Madras

District 1 Caucus, May 14, Seaside

District 3 Caucus, May 14, N. Eugene/Santa Clara

District 10 Caucus, May 14, Ontario, 10am MST

District 2 Caucus, May 15

District 9 Caucus, June 4, Roseburg

No Caucus information for District 6 or 8.

District 8 President, Trudie McGriff, gave us May 17 at Unit 180 at 7pm

Spring DEC will be April 1-3, 2022, in Harney County.

Linda Schmidt, District 10 President gave an update. They have the meeting spaces set up; two hotels reserved with 70 rooms total. I need to know where the PDP's want to have their lunch.

Linda Liebenow, Department Secretary, the PDP lunch is usually taken care by Ginny Williams. If you have recommendation, it would be appreciated. More information will be sent out closer to the date.

Department President, Debra

We thank you all for coming and showing you care by representing your Unit and you as a member.

Is there any further business to come before this meeting?

Pending Approval

Patty Cooper, PDP

I will update the website with the flyer about the 4 Chaplains and What's Happening information along with the membership report. I will work on the dates on the back page of the What's Happening later in the week. Congratulations to Cindy Soria for her newsletters regarding her race. When I was District President, we had the Indianapolis 500 race going on.

Would all the Past Department Presidents give a silent applause for an excellent DEC. Thank you very much and Congratulations.

President, Debra, thank you, Patty and Thank you, ladies.

Is there any further business to come before this meeting? If not, we will have the closing prayer by Department Chaplain, Phyllis McDaniel.

Till we meet again, let us remember that our obligation to our Country can be fulfilled only by the faithful performance of all duties of citizenship. Let service to the Community, State and Nation be ever a main objective of the American Legion Auxiliary and its members. Let us ever be watchful of our organization and ourselves, that nothing shall swerve us from the path of Justice, Freedom, Loyalty and Democracy.

I now declare this meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Executive Board, Department of Oregon, adjourned

Adjourned 10:22 am