

JOHN M. WEST UNIT 408
ALA Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2024

Attendees: Tracy Burge, Kimberley Johnson, Pat Kitterman, Rhonda Hundley, Terry Gowen, Connie Gowen, Leslie Eliassen, Sharon Huddleston, Coni Honn, Cindy Russell, Toni Tackett, Laurie Hickle, Lisa Baskall, Verona Hildebrand, and Ami Amason.

Opening:

- Call to Order with hand salute to colors already in place followed by opening prayer by Chaplain Connie Fox-Gowen and a moment of silence.
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Coni Honn.
- Preamble of the Constitution of the American Auxiliary led by Tracy Burge.
- President Tracy Burge declared Derby-Haysville Unit 408 Department of Kansas monthly meeting convened at 7:05 pm.

Welcome Guests and New Members:

Lisa Baskall and Laurie Hickle were welcomed as new members. Welcome!

Standing Items:

Minutes: Lesley Eliassen made a motion to approve the minutes of last month's meeting as published. Coni Honn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Financial Report read and copies shared by Rhonda Hundley. As approved at the last meeting, a Raffle earmark was added to be funded \$100 per month with a \$500 cap. Also, funds from other earmarks moved to fund Girls State were returned to appropriate earmarks since Girls State funds were not utilized.

Prior to the meeting, Mike Saindon reported the Legion was informed by its insurance agent to expect a 20% - 80% increase. Following a discussion, Pat Kitterman made a motion to increase the Insurance earmark \$150 per month. Motion seconded by Coni Honn. Motion carried.

Chaplain Report:

Darla Harper passed away last month. Our condolences to the family.

Please contact Connie Fox-Gowen with any illnesses or deaths at 816-820-2407 or DNP114@hotmail.com.

Fundraisers:

ALA's next raffle will be September 16 – October 31.

Raffle Suggestions: a football related basket to possibly include Chief's, WSU, KU, and/or KSU tickets, a basket of items from the Black Friday store, a raffle of a Husqvarna item from Laurie Hickle's relative's store, season tickets to Derby and/or Mulvane's football games, and a DRC membership.

Reminder: fundraisers can be held at any time of time of year, but raffles are limited to our allotted timeframe. A raffle requires a ticket purchase whereas fundraisers are usually products sold.

Discussion on Enhancing Upcoming Burger Burns: Coni Honn suggested a Hawaii theme, and Terry Gowen suggested adding smoked mac & cheese. Add hot dogs to the menu. Bacon has only been added to the menu once. Suggestion was made to continue with bacon a few times before adding other burgers. Discussion will continue next meeting.

Peaches: orders for Colorado Palisade Peaches are currently being taken. See Rhonda Hundley or Pat Kitterman for flyers or information.

John M. West Foundation Raffle: the Foundation is selling raffle tickets for two VIP tickets to the McConnell Air Show in August. See Pat Kitterman for more information.

New Business:

5th District Fundraisers:

Kimberley Johnson reported on a couple of 5th District Fundraisers:

- A Bakeless Bake Sale: asking for cash donations for the cost of pies, cookies, etc. Laurie Hickie made a motion to donate \$50. Coni Honn seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Gun Raffle: State President Tracy Kinnick's fundraiser for her project this year is a gun raffle for a collectible 45mm handgun. Kimberley has tickets at \$20 each if anyone is interested. The funds will be used to purchase projection equipment to be used at four VA facilities.

Bylaws:

Discussion was held to align our Bylaws with National:

- Article V. Elections. Section 3: change the first meeting from June to May.
- Article V. Elections. Section 4: change "a member must belong to the unit for one year..." to member in good standing.
- Terry Gowen made a motion to make the above changes. Pat Kitterman seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Duties and Powers of Unit Officer Article II, Section 4: Remove Secretary, and add President and Vice President.
- Standing Rules 15: remove Secretary and add President and Vice President.
- Pat Kitterman made a motion to make the above changes. Lesley Eliassen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pat Kitterman was asked to update the Bylaws for membership consideration at the meeting next month. Pat agreed as long as an electronic version was supplied to her.

Request was made to add page numbers and a date.

Further discussion was tabled until next month.

Membership: Kimberley Johnson reported that an award would be given for the highest percentage of renewals made by December 7. As an incentive a drawing for a gift basket will be held for those that renew early.

Memberships are for January through December. Renewals can begin July 1. New memberships can be submitted beginning September 1.

There was a discussion to raise dual memberships from \$20 to \$28 since the state currently gets \$28, and we are going in the hole on these memberships. Laurie Hickle made a motion to raise the dual membership to \$28. Pat Kitterman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tumblers: Following a discussion, Laurie Hickle made a motion to lower the price of the tumblers from \$15 to \$10 to help clear them out. Pat Kitterman seconded, and the motion carried.

Upcoming Events:

Bierocks this Thursday, July 11, 5-7 pm

Family Meeting this Thursday, July 11, 7 pm

Bunco, Friday, July 12, 6 pm

American Legion Operation Holiday Poker Run, Saturday, July 13 followed by Silent Auction, raffles, and taco burgers. (Volunteers meeting Wednesday at 6 pm)

BOG Burger Burn, Thursday, July 18, 5-7 pm

Legion Meeting, Thursday, July 18, 7 pm

SAL Breakfast, Sunday, July 21, 8-11 am

ALR All You Can Eat Tacos, Thursday, July 25, 5-7 pm

Every Wednesday, Texas Hold'em at 6:30 pm

Every Saturday, Queen of Hearts at 7:30 pm

Octoberfest, Saturday, September 28, tickets are \$20

Check the website for additional information: <https://americanlegionfamilypost408.org>

Meeting Raffle:

Sharon Huddleston won the \$25 gift card to Casa Martinez.

Next Meeting:

Monday, August 12, at 7 pm

Discussions will include raffle determination and September Burger Burn menu.

Closing:

Chaplain Connie Fox-Gowen closed the meeting in prayer.

Colors already in place, hand salute.

Tracy Burge, President, declared the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rhonda Hundley
Treasurer