

JOHN M. WEST UNIT 408
ALA Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2024

ATTENDEES:

Lesley Eliassen, Shonda Palmer, Lori Ohmes, Rhonda Hundley, Kimberley Johnson, Ashley Johnson, Verona Hilderbrand, Barbara King, Connie Fox-Gowen, Terry Gowen, Sharon Huddleston, Coni Honn, Karon Watson, Anna Simpson, Tracy Burge, Connie Bise, Helen Leake, and Tammy Halloran

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR COMING!!!!

OPENING:

- Call to Order (3 raps) With colors already in place hand salute
 - *The meeting will come to order.
 - Opening Prayer led by our Chaplain Connie Fox-Gowen, followed by a Moment of silence.
- Pledge of Allegiance
 - * The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Lesley Eliassen.
- Preamble of the Constitution of the American Auxiliary.
 - *Led by Lesley Eliassen
- President Lesley Eliassen declared Derby-Haysville Unit 408 Department of Kansas monthly meeting convened at 7:00 pm.

Standing Items:

- Minutes:
 - *The minutes of last month's meeting were emailed and reviewed, by Members. No corrections.
 - *All vote to accept minutes from February, 2024.
 - All in favor. Motion carried.
 - * The report will be filed for audit.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer's Report: Financial Report read by Rhonda Hundley. Continuing to reconcile a slight discrepancy. Anna Simpson made a motion to balance the check register. Barbara King second. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Bills to be paid at this time are a reimbursement to Kimberley Johnson for stamps and also membership fees paid online. Anna Simpson made a motion to pay the bills. Lori Ohmes second. All in favor. Motion carried.

- *The report will be reconciled and filed for audit.

Fundraisers:

- 1) The cup fundraiser is ongoing: colored or black and white. Barbara King made a motion to lower the price of these cups to \$20.00 Lori Ebenhack made a motion to lower the price to \$15.00, Lori Ohmes second, all in favor. Motion carried.
- 2) They can be purchased at the post meetings or on the website for \$15.00 each. We hope to sell them at any upcoming events.
- 3) We have a few red GI t-shirts left \$10.00 ea.
- 4) ALA Coins are available for \$10.00 ea.
- 5) SAL still has the kitchen wares fundraiser going.
- 6) ALR Coins are still available for \$10.00 each. They are also selling "Support Our Troops" signs for \$5.00 ea.
- 7) Fundraising committee is selling RED Friday bags for \$15.00 each. The regular bag is \$15.00 or you can purchase one with a zipper for \$20.00.
- 8) Queen Of Hearts Drawing every Saturday at 7:30pm in the Canteen.
- 9) ALA is having a fundraiser starting March 16, 2024. We will be taking pre-orders with payment for enchiladas, burritos, and cookies until April 16, 2024. These are products being cooked for pick up on April 2, 2024 from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Burritos and enchiladas with meat are \$25.00 per dozen. Without meat are \$20.00 per dozen. Cookies are \$15.00 per dozen. Again, pick up is April 27, 2024 from 11:00 to 2:00 pm in the canteen.

Unfinished/Old Business:

- Come on down on Saturday evenings @7:30pm for your chance to win The Queen Of Hearts!!!
- BUNCO SHINDIGS the 2nd Friday of every month starting. Doors open at 5:30pm dice roll at 6:00pm. \$20.00 entry fee. PLEASE BRING YOUR SIGNIFICANT OTHER, FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, AUNTS, UNCLES, COUSINS, AND SIBLINGS TO PLAY!!
- MUST BE 21 YEARS OF AGE TO PLAY
- We need to grow this Shindig!!! This is ALA's major fundraiser. Please bring any items that you would like to donate for the prizes.
- Our March Burger Burn was a success. We had a great turn out of volunteers and patrons. There was a discrepancy in product used vs product sold. Lesley Eliassen took responsibility and reimbursed ALA so our reports would financially meet.
- March BUNCO was super fun! We had a great turn out! We had 3 new players (2 were guys) and they all had a great time and will be returning to play again! This is a fun game! Easy to learn and we add new people every month! It's an

amazing fundraiser and we should continue growing this event! Please share with friends and family!

New Business:

1. NOMINATIONS FOR NEW OFFICERS: Current President Lesley Eliassen nominates Tracy Burge for President. Lesley Eliassen nominates our current Vice President Kimberley Johnson to continue in this position. Kimberley Johnson nominates our current Secretary, Shonda Palmer to continue in this position. Kimberley Johnson nominates Lesley Eliassen for the Treasurer's position. Anna Simpson Nominates Rhonda Hundley for this position. Connie Fox-Gowen is nominated to continue in our Chaplain position. Shonda Palmer nominates Lori Ohmes to continue in our Sgt @ Arms position. Historian position remains open.
2. **PLEASE DON'T FORGET** if your membership is not paid you can not vote!! Please pay your 2024 membership dues!!!
3. **PLEASE BRING YOUR MEMBERSHIP ID CARD WITH YOU TO THE POST!!! YOU WILL NOT BE SERVED IF YOU DON'T HAVE IT!!! YOU MAY TAKE A PICTURE OF YOUR ID WITH YOUR PHONE AND THAT WILL BE ACCEPTED!!!**
THANK YOU!!!!
4. Time to start thinking about Officers for 2024-2025. If you are interested in holding a position please let an ALA Officer know!!! First vote is next month, March, second vote in April, Officers are sworn in May.
5. Fundraiser for ALA begins on March 16, 2024. Burritos, enchiladas, and cookies.
6. Our turn as the AUX for cleaning the post starts March 15, 2024. IT GOES FOR 6 WEEKS!!! Tracy Burge and her cleaning crew have agreed to clean once a week at no charge for the ALA. Thank you so very much for everything you do for our post!!! We appreciate you!!!! Coni Honn made motion that we hire Commercial Cleaners to clean the post the 2nd time in the week. Shonda Palmer second. All in favor. Motion carried.
7. 5th District Annual Meeting will be held at Post 408. The unit President and Secretary shall automatically be delegates for said meeting. There shall also be 2 elected delegates for every 50 members in the unit (Tracy Burge, Kimberley Johnson) and maybe a couple others which will have the ability to vote at the conference. The entry fee for each delegate is \$5.00 also \$10.00 for the luncheon (if you choose to stay) The Bash Brothers will be hosting.
8. Tracy Kinnick is running for 5th District President. If she is elected she would like to know if our unit would host her luncheon (in September 2024). Anna Simpson made a motion for our unit to host Tracy Kinnick's luncheon. Coni Honn second. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. NO OUTSIDE BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED IN THE BUILDING!!!! WE MUST PROTECT OUR BARTENDERS, ALL VOLUNTEERS, AND OUR ENTIRE ESTABLISHMENT!!!!
10. BUNCO Friday April 12, 2024.

Fundraising Report:

1. There are 3 different Military support logo T-shirts size XL for \$20.00 ea. available for purchase.
2. Queen of Hearts every Saturday evening at 7:30 pm in the Canteen.
3. Karaoke every Saturday evening following the Queen of Hearts from 8:00-11:00 pm.
4. Please check the Legion Website for other fundraisers.

ALR Report:

1. SAL/ALA Breakfast third Sunday of the month. Sunday March 16, 2024 from 8:00-11:00 am.
2. Brian Simpson will be chairing this event. Please contact him to volunteer for this event.
3. Poker Run for Operation Holiday Saturday July 13, 2024. Cher Clare will be chairing this huge event. WE NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS!!! Please reach out to Cher tele: 316-644-3938 or email cher.r.clare@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Saturday March 16, 2024 is the American Legion Birthday Party Starts at set up from 1:00-3:00 pm. Please contact Pat Kitterman for signing up to volunteer. PLEASE BRING A SIDE AND A DESSERT OR 2 SIDES TO SHARE!!
- Saturday evenings is Queen of Hearts in the Canteen at 7:30 pm. Karaoke from 8:00 to 11:00 pm.
- Sunday March 17, 2024 SAL/ALA Breakfast from 8:00 to 11:00 am. Following our Sunday breakfasts will be a short, non denominational church service in the meeting hall at 11:15 am. SAL meeting at 1:00pm.
- Sunday March 17, 2024 Saint Patty's Day Celebration from 2:00 - 6:00 pm in the American Legion Family Post 408 Canteen.
- Wednesday March 20, 2024 Poker Night.
- Thursday March 21, 2024 BOG cooking dinner.
- Monday March 25, 2024 Foundation Meeting at 7:00pm.
- Tuesday March 26, 2024 BOG Meeting at 7:00 pm.
- Wednesday March 27, 2024 Texas Hold'em at 6:30 pm.

- Thursday March 28, 2024 VA REPRESENTATIVE will be here from 1:00-4:00 pm. ALR will be cooking dinner 5:00-7:00 pm. PEC Meeting at 7:00 pm.
- Monday April 1, 2024 Operation Holiday Toy Run Meeting at 6:00 pm.
- Thursday April 4, 2024 ALA Burger Burn 5:00-7:00 pm or until food is gone. PLEASE BRING DESSERTS!!!!
- Thursday April 4, 2024 American Legion Business Meeting at 7:00 pm.
- Friday April 5, 2024 **AND** Saturday April 6, 2024 our post will be hosting the District 5 meeting. Will need to have volunteers for registration and to take money for the ALA. I know we had 3 people say they would help with registration. Meet and greet is at 5:00 pm - whenever on the 5th. Will be a BBQ Buffet Saturday afternoon (\$15.00 per person). We still need many volunteers for this event!
- Friday April 5, 2024 5th District meeting meet and greet, registration is 5:00-9:00 pm.
- Saturday April 6, 2024 District Meeting 6:30 am - 6:00 pm.
- Friday April 12, 2024 BUNCO doors open at 5:30 pm dice roll at 6:00 pm.
- Karaoke every Saturday Night 8:00-11:00 pm.

THE CANTEEN IS NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!!!

OTHER BUSINESS:

Tracy Burge has some ideas for future fundraising: Bags of ice for sale, all funds collected would be used for purchase of an outside ice machine and all supplies needed for said project. She will write up a plan and present it to the BOG.

Tracy also brought up the idea for our facility...providing different decorating opportunities for our future clients in our rental spaces. There will also be a plan written up for this project to be presented to the BOG.

REMINDER:. Next Auxiliary Meeting is Monday April 8, 2024 at 7:00pm. **PLEASE ATTEND THIS MEETING!**

Please review all fundraisers available from all of the entities of our Legion Family. They can also be viewed on the website.

Minutes can also be found on the American Legion Post 408 website.

President Lesley Eliassen called to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 pm, all in favor, motion carried.

(3raps)

Our Chaplain, Connie Fox-Gowen, led us in prayer for peace.

Until we meet again, let us remember that our obligation to our country can only be fulfilled by the 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 that path of Justice, Freedom, and Democracy.

Colors already in place, Hand Salute.

President Lesley Eliassen declared the meeting of Derby- Haysville Unit 408, The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Kansas, adjourned. @ 7:45 pm.