

JOHN M. WEST UNIT 408  
ALA Meeting Minutes  
May 13, 2024

ATTENDEES:

Lesley Eliassen, Shonda Palmer, Lori Ohmes, Rhonda Hundley, Kimberley Johnson, Ashley Johnson, Connie Fox-Gowen, Terry Gowen, Tracy Burge, Ami Amason, Tammy Halloran, Wanda Dailey, Connie Bise, Pat Kitterman, Cindy Russell, Helen Leake, Mark Blake and Karon Watson.

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 Terry Gowen.
- 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 7:02 pm.

Standing Items:

- Minutes:
  - \*The minutes of last month's meeting were emailed and reviewed, by Members.

ADDITIONS:

Lesley Eliassen entertained a motion to challenge each entity in the Legion to come up with a \$1,000.00 to purchase a new A/C for the bar. Motion was made by Tammy Halloran to take \$1,000.00 out of the building fund to cover this. Motion second by Coni Honn. Discussion on how to pay the building fund back. Was decided we will reimburse the fund by taking 50% of fundraising income until paid back. Motion made by Lori Ohmes to reimburse building fund. Pat Kitterman second. All in favor, motion carried.

\*Motion made to accept minutes from April 8, 2024 by Wanda Dailey.

\* Motion second by Lori Ohmes.

\* All in favor. Motion carried.

\* The report will be filed for audit.

#### Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer's Report: Financial Report read and shared copies by Rhonda Hundley.
- Bills to be paid at this time are the invoice for our BUNCO shirts. Wanda Dailey made a motion to pay the BUNCO shirt invoice. Lori Ohmes second. All in favor, motion carried.
- Cleaning invoice to be paid to Commercial Pro Cleaning. Rhonda made a motion to make an earmark for a cleaning fund. Shonda made a motion to pay Commercial Pro Cleaning. Connie Fox-Gowen second. All in favor, motion carried.
- All financials balance!!!!
- Three girls are wanting to go to Girls State. Discussion was had in April. The girls will spend a week in Topeka and learn about our Legislature. The cost per girl is \$400.00. Lesley Eliassen reached out to other posts and they say they will try to come up with funds to send one of the girls. Lesley entertained a motion to move \$250.00 from our Jr Account, Gift Shop Account \$100.00 and we already have \$325.00 earmarked. Motion made to continue to find funds to send two girls by Coni Honn. Second by Lori Ohmes. All in favor. Motion carried. We still need to come up with \$125.00 before June 2, 2024. If we don't find a sponsor for the 3rd girl we will need to come up with \$525.00.
- 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 \$15.00.
- 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. Also have a raffle for 50 lbs of meat. Ribeye, Filets, Pork Chops, Hamburger Patties, and Chicken Breasts. Tickets are \$5.00 ea or \$20.00 for 5 tickets. Drawing will be Thursday June 27, 2024 at the ALR Taco Dinner.
- 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) June 7-8, 2024 is Smoke On The Plains.
- 10) June 29, 2024 is the Haysville Pool Party. Please contact Rhonda Hundley to volunteer for these events.
- 11) Tickets for Oktoberfest, September 29, 2024, are \$20.00.

#### 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 May Burger Burn was a success. We had a great turn out of volunteers and patrons.
- April BUNCO was super fun! We had a great turn out! Everyone 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!
- Fundraiser for Enchiladas, Burritos, and cookies is all wrapped up. Thank you to everyone for all of your help!!!
- THANK YOU SO MUCH TO TRACY AND HER COMPANY FOR TAKING SUCH GREAT CARE OF THE POST AND OUR GROUP!!!!

#### New Business:

President Lesley Eliassen passed our copies of our current Constitution and By-Laws. Please read these and bring suggestions for changes and updates.

Article V. Elections. Section 3 needs to be changed to the first meeting in May. Voting and swear-in need to be done in May so that incoming officers are in place before the Department meeting.

Article V. Elections. Section 4 is in direct violation of the rights of a member in good standing of the American Legion Auxiliary. Any person in good standing with their unit may run for any officer position. We will have a vote in the June meeting for this.

The American Legion Auxiliary Direct Billing Unit Data Form was sent via email on April 23, 2024. This form updates the State and national organization of the current year's officers and contact information. In addition to the dues that the unit collects from seniors and juniors. Kimberley Johnson contacted the state, they say they didn't receive the email. She resent the email to let them know it was the 2nd attempt at getting up the information to them and will also be in verbal contact with them again.

We have a BOG Position that needs to be filled. Kimberley Johnson has agreed to step into this position until December and a 3 year person will be needed.

Motion made by Rhonda Hundley to vote Kimberley into that position. Pat Kitterman second. All in favor. Motion carried.

We have wine that was donated to BUNCO and we are not participating in our balloon drop any longer. Motion was made by Kimberley Johnson to donate remaining wine to the Toy Run Auction. Second by Shonda Palmer. All in favor. Motion carried.

Poppy Day is May 24, 2024. We have Poppys here at the Legion that are sold for a \$1.00. 50% of funds raised will go to Topeka and 50% will remain with our Unit after all expenses are paid. Ami Amason will be our Poppy seller of the year!! Thank you Ami!!

Call to Convention: Delegates and Alternates to the Department of Convention next to be submitted to the Dept. Of Kansas by May 20, 2024. The Unit President, Vice President, and Secretary are automatically selected Delegates unless they choose to not attend. An additional delegate may be sent to represent the unit. For every 50 paid members. Members to attend should be voted on no later than 2 weeks prior to the convention (May 31 and June 1 & 2). Lesley has a copy of the proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws that will be voted on at Convention if anyone is interested in seeing them. Lesley entertained a motion for our unit to pay for our members entry admission. Motion made by Pat Kitterman to pay for our unit members' admissions. Tammy Halloran second motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mardi Gras Soiree is on June 1, 2024 at Convention. If you choose, come dressed in your favorite Mardi Gras attire. Plan to bring money for donations to the President Project. It's a fund raiser for the Auxiliary to go to a project of their choosing. District 5 is raising funds for 2 fur real dogs and a cat fur real cat. These animals are given to Veterans that can't bring their real animals with them when they move.

Tracy Burgess entertained a motion to swap up our burger burns a little by offering bacon, Swiss and mushroom burger, tator tots, o-rings, etc. Motion made by Lesley

Eliassen to swap our burger burns up a bit and include these additional add ons . Motion second by Wanda dailey. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Lesley Eliassen to leave it up to staff to determine what they would like to cook and charge accordingly. Motion second by Tammy Halloran . All in favor. Motion carried.

We will be having a meeting to discuss our upcoming burger burn on Sunday the 19th at 1:00pm in the banquet room.

#### NOMINATIONS AND VOTE FOR NEW OFFICERS

FOR PRESIDENT: TRACY BURGE

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT: KIMBERLEY JOHNSON

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

FOR SECRETARY: SHONDA PALMER

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

FOR TREASURER: RHONDA HUNDLEY

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

FOR CHAPLAIN: CONNIE FOX-GOWEN

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

FOR SGT AT ARMS: LORI OHMES

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Lesley entertained a motion to elect Rosetta Sullivan a Honorary Sgt At Arms.

MOTION MADE BY LORI OHMES TO NOMINATE ROSEZETTA SULLIVAN

HONORARY SGT AT ARMS. MOTION SECOND BY AMI AMASON.

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED .

Officers are sworn in by outgoing President, Lesley Eliassen. Shonda Palmer presented Past President pin to Lesley. Kimberly Johnson also presented Lesley with a Past President pin.

- 1. PLEASE DON'T FORGET** your membership dues!!
- 2. 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!!!!**
3. Tracy Kinnick is running for State President. If she is elected she would like our unit to host her luncheon (in September 2024).

4. NO OUTSIDE BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED IN THE BUILDING!!!! WE MUST PROTECT OUR BARTENDERS, ALL VOLUNTEERS, AND OUR ENTIRE ESTABLISHMENT!!!!

#### 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 followed by Karaoke at 8:00pm.

#### ALR Report:

1. SAL/ALA Breakfast third Sunday of the month. Sunday May 19, 2024 8am-11:00 am followed by Church Service at 11:15. SAL Meeting at 1:00pm. Brian Simpson will be chairing this event. Please contact him to volunteer for this event.
2. 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](mailto:cher.r.clare@gmail.com).

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Please see the calendar for upcoming meetings.
- Saturday evenings is Queen of Hearts in the Canteen at 7:30 pm. Karaoke from 8:00 to 11:00 pm.
- Tuesday May 14, 2024 Golf Meeting at 6:00pm.
- Wednesday May 15, 2024 Texas Hold'em at 6:30 pm.
- Thursday May 16, 2024 BOG cooking 5:00 - 7:00 pm.
- Friday May 17, 2024 SaL Burger Burn at the Trowbridge Fly-In.
- Saturday May 18, 2024 SAL Burger Burn at the Trowbridge Fly-In. 7:30 QOH.
- Sunday May 19, 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 May 19, 2024 Meet at Hillcrest Cemetery at 5:00pm. To place crosses and flags for our veterans. Bring a rubber mallet if you have one!
- Monday May 20, 2024 Operation Holiday Toy Run Meeting at 6:00 pm followed by the Foundation Meeting at 7:00pm.
- Tuesday May 21, 2024 Fundraising meeting at 6:00pm.
- Wednesday May 22, 2024 Texas Hold'em at 6:30pm.
- Thursday May 23, 2024 VA REP 1:00 - 4:00pm. ALR cooking 5:00 - 7:00 pm.
- Saturday May 25, 2024 QOH at 7:30pm.
- Tuesday May 27, 2024 Hillcrest Cemetery Memorial Day Program at 11:00am.

- Tuesday May 28, 2024 BOG Meeting at 7:00pm.
- Wednesday May 29, 2024 Texas Hold'em at 6:30pm.
- Thursday May 30, 2024 SAL Cooking 5:00 - 7:00 pm.
- Friday May 31, 2024 Department Convention in Topeka KS
- Thursday June 6, 2024 ALA Burger Burn 5:00 - 7:00 pm.
- Monday June 10, 2024 Auxiliary Meeting at 7:00pm.
- Friday June 14, 2024 BUNCO doors open at 5:30pm. Dice roll at 6:00pm.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

REMINDER:. Next Auxiliary Meeting is Monday June 10, 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 Tracy Burger called to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 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 Tracy Burger declared the meeting of Derby- Haysville Unit 408, The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Kansas, adjourned. @ 8:27 pm.

