

John M West
Auxiliary Meeting Minutes
Monday December 9, 2024

ATTENDEES: Barbra King, Lori Ohmes, Wanda Dailey, Karon Watson, Brian Simpson, Dan McKelvey, Brenda Paul, Sharon Huddleston, Coni Honn, Verona Hilderbrand, Rhonda Hundley, Kayelen Palmer, Ashley Johnson, Connie Bise, Terry Gowen, connie Gowen, Dionna Farbstein, Tammy Halloran, Kimberley Johnson, Lesley Eliassen, Tracy Barton, and Shonda Palmer.

OPENING:

- Call to order with a hand salute to colors already in place.
- Opening prayer led by Connie Gowen followed by a moment of silence.
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Lesley Eliassen.
- Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary led by Tracy Barton.
- President Tracy Barton declared the Derby-Haysville Unit 408 Department of Kansas monthly meeting convened at 7:06 pm.

WELCOME GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS

STANDING ITEMS: Lesley Eliassen made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from November as read and emailed to the membership. Barbara King second the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Minutes will be filed for audit.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The financial report was read and shared with the membership by Rhonda Hundley. Brenda Paul made a motion to accept the report as read and shared with the membership. Lesley Eliassen second the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS: Kimberley Johnson paid membership dues of \$196.00 and \$112.04. Shonda Palmer made a motion to reimburse Kimberley for membership dues. Brian Simpson second the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Brenda Paul made a motion to pay bills due. Brian Simpson second the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT: Connie Gowen shared that Pat Kitterman had passed away on Saturday December 7, 2024. Her viewing is Friday December 13, 2024 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Smith Mortuary on Rock Road in Derby. Graveside service is Saturday December 14, 2024 at El Paso Cemetery at 10:00 am. All are welcome to attend. Flags will be available for anyone that would like to participate in the flag line.

HISTORIAN REPORT: Nothing to report at this time. If you get a chance you should check out the book that our Historian Tammy Halloran has put together! It is a phenomenal piece of art!!

MEMBERSHIP: Thank you to everyone that signed up during early registration! The winner of the gift basket for early registration is Kimberly Thompson. Congratulations Kimberly!!

OLD BUSINESS: Calendar events monthly: Each entity is responsible for putting together a monthly calendar that will be combined to make the post monthly calendar. Please make sure to get these calendars to Tracy Barton or Hugh Clare. Kimberley Johnson will be making the monthly Auxiliary calendar so if you know of events that need to be shared please get those to Kimberley so she can create our monthly calendar. Hugh has also asked for a current membership roster from each entity. Kimberley will get that to him in January of 2025. Thank you Kimberley!!

We are still trying to coordinate an 80's themed night with the SAL. We are thinking about February sometime.

Terry Gowen shared that we will have a flag line at the cemetery and anyone is welcome to hold a flag. We will be at the cemetery around 9:30 am for the graveside service to get set up before anyone arrives. Please be looking for an email from Shonda Palmer with the details.

SAL Christmas for Kids was a success!! Thank you to all who came on Friday and Saturday!! There were roughly 44 kids running wild through the Post. There were about 20 volunteers that showed up to help and we dispersed over \$3,500.00 in value of toys to the kids. Planning has already started for next year's event and has some volunteers already on board!! Thank you everyone!!

SAL is still selling tickets for their meat bundle raffle. There are only a few tickets left. All tickets and money are due on December 15th and the drawing will be held on December 19, 2024. So get with Brian Simpson or Mike Saindon to get those last minute tickets!

Cancer Care Bags for the patients at the VA: we have a few that are ready for delivery. Photo was taken with members holding items in the bag for our Historian's book.

Next Burger Burn is on January 2, 2025. There will be several of our volunteers out of town for this event so we would like to offer this to the Legion Cruisers or any other entity that would like to run this event. Dionna Farbstein made a motion that we offer January's Burger Burn to other entities. Shonda Palmer second the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Coni Honn commented that after last month's Burger Burn it was difficult as there is a meeting that is directly following at 7:00 PM. Most members attend this meeting leaving very few volunteers for clean up. The Auxiliary has had this issue from the very beginning. So, PLEASE remember this and if you can hang out to help with cleanup it would be greatly appreciated so no one is left with this very big responsibility on their own!! Thank you everyone that continues to make these events successful!!!

NEW BUSINESS:

We have a Board of Governors (BOG) 3 year position open. Nominations for this position are Kimberley Johnson and Lori Ohmes. Also open position for a 1 year BOG Rep. Nomination for this position is Karon Watson. Lesley Eliassen removed her name from the ballot. We also have a Foundation Rep position available. Nomination for this position is Rhonda Hundley.

BOG Reps responsibilities: 3 reps from each entity, attend a monthly meeting, and bring back anything from these meetings that needs to be shared with the membership. Also to voice the wishes of the auxiliary. The BOG is responsible for the daily operations of the Post.

The Legion Foundation does different things for the community. They raised funds for Jax the K-9 here in Derby to have a Kevlar vest with blades inserted. They also collect funds for extras

that the Legion is not able to fund on its own such as for scholarships for kids in the community. The Foundation is a 501C3 which gives them benefits to help with donations and such. If anyone would like to be added to the ballot for any of these mentioned positions please come forward at this time.

Vote conducted: Lori Ohmes will be our 3 year BOG Rep

Karon Watson will be our 1 year BOG Rep

Rhonda Hundley will be our Foundation Rep

Lesley Eliassen made a motion to accept the votes for these positions. Barbara King second the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Congratulations to you all!!

Our winners for our monthly meeting drawing for gift cards are Lori Ohmes and Terry Gowen.

Congratulations to you!! Enjoy your Starbucks!!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday December 13, 2024 BUNCO at 6:00 pm

Saturday December 14, 2024 Legion Christmas Party Mingle 4:00 to 5:00 PM Dinner at 5:00

Sunday December 15, 2024 Football Watch Party canteen opens at noon.

Monday January 13, 2025 Auxiliary Meeting at 7:00 pm

Friday January 10, 2025 BUNCO at 6:00 pm

Our Chaplain Connie Gowen led us in closing prayer.

Colors already in place. Hand Salute.

President Tracy Barton declared this meeting of the Derby-Haysville Unit 408, The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Kansas adjourned at 7:42pm.