DEPARTMENT OF OREGON 103RD CONVENTION JUNE 12-15, 2024

MILL CASINO, NORTH BEND, OR

The 103rd Annual Convention Meeting of the Department of Oregon called to Order, President Catherine Brockmann

- Colors being in place please render a hand salute to our flag, by President Catherine Brockmann
- **Invocation,** by Chaplin Gregoria Hernandez
- Pledge of Allegiance, led by Krisann Owens NEC
- **Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary,** led by Pam Seelye, Parliamentarian.
- Welcome to the 103rd Annual Department Convention, President Catherine, it is great to see so many delegates here. This is wonderful. How many here is it their first time? Many hands were raised.
- Call to Convention will be read, President Catherine
 Motion was made by Linda Schmidt, Harney County Unit 63, to not read the call as it
 was sent out 30 days prior to Convention, 2nd was made, no discussion, Motion
 passed.
- Reading of Convention Rules, President Catherine, Motion was made by Vice President Cindy Soria, Unit 123, to only read the rules the President has requested, as all rules have been distributed in the Convention packets. 2nd was made, no discussion Motion carried to read selected rules. Parliamentarian Pam Seelye will read the selected rules. Rule #4, The audience shall remain muted during the business of the convention. Rule #6, only voting delegates of the convention may make motions and address the department convention and debate. To address the Convention the voting member should first address the Chair, 2nd wait to be recognized by the Chair, and 3rd upon recognition by the chair shall state your name and unit. Rule #8, each delegate shall be entitled to one vote, the vote of any

delegate absent and not represented by an alternate, may be cast with the majority of those present from their unit. In accordance with the current Department C&B's and Standing Rules. **Rule #12**, nomination of candidates for the office of Department President and Department Vice President shall be on Friday, June 14th, 2024. **Rule #13**, Nominations for Department Office shall be made from the floor. **Rule #16**, Election of Department Officers shall be on Friday, June 14th, 2024. When there is but one candidate for any office, the nominee may be elected by voice. When there is more than 1 candidate for Department office the election shall be determined by the presiding officer. A majority of votes cast shall elect each officer.

- Credential Chairman, Tracy Peets, Madame President we have a quorum.
- Mission Outreach Program Reports and Awards.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Linda Liebenow, Chairman, introduction of, Traci Palmer, Roseburg VAMC guest speaker. Linda Azorr, Honor Flight guest speaker. All Reps, and Deps, Transplant Coordinator, and Christmas Gift Shop Chairman introduced.

Murial E Nothinger Memorial, Year-round service to veterans

Membership 10-99 Stevens-Chute #4

Linda Liebenow, year-round Service to Vets, Membership 100-160 North Eugene/Santa Clara #83

Cheryl Wilson year round Service to Vets, Membership 161-250, no entry Clara Scott, year round Service to Vets, Membership 251-+ no entries

Arlene Downing Vets Affairs, no entries

Marge Kenobbie Memorial, LaGrande #43

Lousie Carter, PDP, service to Vets, Louis Larsen #68

Trudie McGriff, PDP, Service to Veterans, N. Eugene/Santa Clara #83

Angelina McKinney, PDP, Service to Veterans, Stevens-Chute #4

Service to Veterans Hospitals, LaGrande #43

• Poppy Posters Awards, Dianne Standing, Chairman

Elle Buell. PDP, Poppy Program, Lori Sherman #68

Jewel Babb, PDP, LaGrande #43

Darlene McLaughlin, PDP, best narrative, Membership, 10-100

Washington #2

Florence Comber, PDP, best narrative, Membership 101-200

Milwaukee #180

Judy Lloyd, PDP, best narrative Membership 201+

Nadine Menke Memorial, Poppy Display, no entries

Poppy Award, Santiam #51

Poster and Coloring Contest Grades 1-3, Karmen Cooke, Unit #68

Poster and Coloring Contest Grades 4-5, Audrey Hepler, Unit #68

Poster and Coloring Contest Grades 6-7, Hailey Hepler, Unit #68

Poster and Coloring Contest Grades 8-9, Lilian Krotzer, Unit #68

Poster and Coloring Contest Grades 10-11, Alex Reed, Unit #68

Poster and Coloring Contest Grade 12, no entries

Poster and Coloring Contest, Special Needs, Kelan Crus, Unit #68

• Americanism, Sherri Russell Chairman, (absent), Karla Thaler, Forest Grove Unit #2 gave report on behalf of Sherri Russell.

Maxine Bigalow, PDP, no entries

R. Marie Martin, Aurora Unit 110

Americanism Essay, Grades 3-4, Hudson Firkins, Unit #68

Americanism Essay, Grades 5-6, Kylie Harrell, Unit #68

Americanism Essay, Grades 7-8, Madisen Prahl, Unit #68

Americanism Essay, Grades 9-10, Alexander Reed, #68

Americanism Essay, Grades 11-12, Emma Dean, #68

Americanism Essay, Special Needs, Emory Johnson #68

 Children and Youth, Angie McKinney Chairman (absent) Jody Marsh presented awards on behalf of Angie.

Pam

Seelye, PDP, Month of April, N. Eugene/Santa Clara #83

Cheryl Park, PDP, C&Y, Aurora #110

Edith E. Brown Memorial, Steven-Chute #4

• Yvonne Drury, President Stevens-Chute #4,

I am excited about this award, and is our 2nd time by reading the newspaper finding a child that has done something above and beyond. This young man and friends were hiking in the Cascade Mountains, A friend fell and disappeared. They got 11-year-old Theo to bring his drones to look for the individual. Theo was able to pinpoint where the friend's body was by using his drone.

- Community Service, Margie De Moss, Chairman
 Best Community Service, Membership 10-150, N. Eugene/Santa Clara Unit #83
 Mary Larsen, PDP, Best Community Service, 151+ no entry
 Lois Peterson, PDP, Best Project, Aurora #110
- Education & Scholarship, Suzanne Driver, Chairman (absent)
 Evelyn Ogilvie, PDP, Overall Education/Scholarship, no entry

Bobbi Pebbler spoke on her behalf. Several applicants sent in for National scholarships. One applicant was accepted by national.

- Juniors, Catherine Brockmann, Pro Temp Chairman.
 No entries for any awards.
- Legislative, Tracy Peets Chairman
 Bernice Marcroft, PDP, no entry
- Oregon ALA Girls State, Connie Smith, Chairman, (absent preparing for girls State)
 Danni Gonzales gave report, 29 girls attending, 2 county moms, and 5 other
 volunteers. Shirts arrived.
- Member Support Programs, Catherine Brockmann
- Constitution and Bylaws, Pam Seelye Chairman
 I have received several C&B's this year, I have sent back several suggestions to the
 Units. They took my suggestions and implemented them. I would like to give
 everyone that has completed their documents a certificate. Thanks to all of you!
 Units #6, 45, 37, 43, and 63.
- Daily attendance prize, Unit # 99
 7:30 registration begins tomorrow morning, meeting will begin at 9am. Red, white and blue day tomorrow.
 Meeting is in recess until tomorrow morning at 9am, meeting adjourned by President Catherine.
- Meeting in recess
- President Catherine called meeting back in session. June, 14, 2024, 9am
- Flag of our Nation is in place, hand salute, led By President Catherine.
- Opening Prayer given by Chaplain Gregoria Hernandez
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Krisann Owens NEC.
- President Catherine Brockmann, May I please have a report from Credentials Chairman? Tracy Peets, Madame President we have a quorum.

- Krisann Owens NEC, as a tradition that goes back farther than I can remember. The
 PDP's have always humbled the immediate Past Department President, this time for
 whatever reason someone decided to say yes not only twice but twice in a row, we
 figured that you are either crazy or an alien. She's an alien, she cannot talk unless
 she says her ditty. Sgt at Arms please escort the Alien in. It's your job to get her to
 talk. PDP Debra Godwin
- We have a visitor in the room, Department Commander Cory Brockmann,
 Good morning, ladies, please take your seats. I bring greetings to you from the
 Department of Oregon American Legion. We clearly are not having as much fun as
 you Ladies are. Thank you for being here and thank you for supporting this lady here.
- Yvonne Drury, Resolutions Chair. Reading of the courtesy resolution to Department Commander Cory Brockmann
- **President Catherine,** we are now going to move on to a few reports that we need to finish this morning.
- Public Relations, Karen Banks Chairman (absent), Yvonn Drury will give report.
 Lois West Memorial, North Eugene /Santa Clara #83
- AEF, Cindy Dahl Chairman.
 Best written report, Margie Demos #83
 Juanetta Gunder, PDP, Emergency Fund, no entries
- President Catherine Brockmann, we are now going to open the floor for Nominations of Department Officers. The floor is now open for nominations for Department President
- Department President Nomination.
 - Nomination given and comments made by Pam Seelye for Cindy Soria. President Catherine Brockmann, are there any further nominations for Department President? Hearing none, nominations for Department President are now closed. The chair declares Cindy Soria, Department President by acclamation.
- President Catherine Brockmann, nominations are now open for office of Department Vice-President.
- Department Vice-President Nomination.
 Nomination given and endorsement letter read by Karla Thaler, for Dianne Standing

for Vice-President. President Catherine, are there any further nominations for Department Vice-President? Hearing none, the chair declares nominations closed and Dianne Standing is elected as Department Vice-President by acclamation.

• Department President Catherine,

The districts have put forth the following candidates District Presidents and Vice-Presidents

District 1, President Jody Marsh, Seaside Unit 99. Vice- President Tracy Peets, Hillsboro Unit 6.

District 2, President, Dana Speer, Lester C Rees Unit 57. Vice President, Glena Smith, McMinnville Unit 21.

District 3, President, Bobbi Peebler, Santiam Unit 51. Vice-President, Suzanne Driver, Santiam Unit 51.

District 4, President, Patsy Sakraida, Williams Unit 50. Vice-President, Bonnie Smith, Medford Unit 15.

District 5, President, Ginny Williams, Crook County Unit 29. Vice-President, Karen Banks, Steven-Chute Unit 4

District 6, President, Mary Ward, Milton-Freewater Unit 24. Vice-President, Maggie LaMont, La Grande Unit 43.

District 7, Both offices vacant.

District 8, Barbara Sumner, Portland, Unit 1. Vice-President, Tawnya Lege, Milwaukie Unit 180.

District 9, President, Frankie Trask, Bay Area Unit 34. Vice-President, vacant.

District 10, President, Linda Schmidt, Harney County Unit 63. Vice-President vacant.

The Districts have put forth these members from their caucuses. I will now ask that the Sergent at Arms line all those positions up at the front starting with District 1 to District 10. These members are now elected by acclamation as District Presidents and Vice-Presidents.

Department President Catherine,

I would like to ask that the Vice-President Cindy Soria please come to the podium, as I will be visiting the Legion.

Vice President Cindy,

We will be passing around a bag for donations for our President for her expenses in her travels this year. It is tradition.

• Pam Seelye, Department Parliamentarian

We are not done with nominations, so I will be reading the rules for nomination of national delegates. This is from National Standing Rules, page 28 from the Fall 2023 edition. Representatives in the National Convention shall be by Departments. Each Department shall be entitled to 7 Delegates and 1 additional Delegate for each 1200 members, or major fraction thereof, whose dues have been received by the National Treasurer 30 days prior to the meeting of said National Convention, and to one alternate to each delegate. We have 10 delegates that are available to go to the National Convention. NEC has a position due to her position, Linda Boone is one of those due to her position, as Past National President from Oregon. Our outgoing President has one of those positions and our incoming President Cindy has one of those positions. So that takes 4 positions away, so that leaves 6 delegates, and we need alternates also.

• Department Vice-President Cindy Soria

Do we have nominations for Delegates to National Convention? (President Catherine returned from her visit to the Legion)

Department President Catherine,

Nominations to National Convention is what we are working on.

6 Delegates and 10 alternates are what we are working on.

Trudy McGriff, Unit 180, nominates, Pam Seelye

Tracy Peets, Hillsboro Unit 6, nominates, Linda Liebenow Unit 6

Ginny Williams Unit 29, nominates, Linda Hellickson

Yvonne Drury Unit 4 nominates Maggie LaMont Unit 43

Maggie LaMont Unit 43 nominates Yvonne Drury Unit 4

Cindy Soria Unit 123 nominates Debra Godwin Unit 21

Are there any further nominations for National Delegates?

Pam Seelye Unit 110, I move to make a motion that the Delegation Chairman be empowered to appoint members in good standing as alternates to the National Convention, a second motion was made, no discussion, motion passed.

President Catherine, we have a slate of Delegates to National. We have 10. May I have a second to the motion, a second was made, no discussion, motion passed.

President Catherine

I would like

Incoming President Cindy Soria to come to the podium. **Cindy Soria**, Madame President, on behalf of all the membership here, we would like to present you with this token of appreciation. (Bag of cash donations)

President Catherine

To continue

with business we have some reports we can do.

Member Support Programs

Program's that help members at every level. **Leadership Chairman**, Pro Tem Catherine Brockmann, **Patty Cooper, PDP, Leadership Award**, best narrative Report, North Eugene/ Santa Clara Unit 83

- Member of the Year, no entry
 Gen Horne PDP Parley, North Eugene/Santa Clara Unit 83
- Membership Report and Awards, Cindy Soria
 Estelle Kroeger Memorial, under 100 with greatest numerical gain, Klamath Falls
 Unit 8.
- Evelyn Ogilvie PDP, +100 with greatest numerical gain, Clatsop Unit 12 Bev Myers, PDP, Travis Moothart #184

Jody Marsh PDP, North Eugene/Santa Clara Unit 83

Maxine Bigalow PNP, Tigard Unit 158

Marlene Wettstein PDP District President, Bobbi Peebler District 3

Toni Epperson, PDP, North Eugene/ Santa Clara Unit 83

Virginia Biddle PDP, Longest member, no entry

Reaching Goal by May 31, 2024, Carlton Unit 173,

District President with most units at 100% goal, May 31, 2024, Gregoria Hernandez

• Reports from Administrative Committees

Administrative Committee, Debra Godwin, we started our year off hiring a new Admin Assistant, and Danielle was chosen, a major asset to our organization. Corrected and updated, Employee Handbook, Job Offer, and Paid Holidays.

Finance Committee Report, Helen Hisaw, copies of budget handed out. The equipment purchases for the 2023/24 year are completed. Replacement computer, and 3 new chairs. New website up and running. We have a balance of \$902.55 remaining in membership training. We have a balance of \$2,843. 54 remaining in general office fund. We have \$1,439.78 remaining in our National Presidents Visit fund.

We have spent over our budget in the following categories, DEC meetings, and National Delegate Fees. Our investments at Ameriprise have seen a slight increase. At Convention last year, we reported

\$241,151.08. Overall total investment was \$255,500.00, December,31,2023 was at \$262,520.72, March 31,2024 is at \$268,586.91 and as of May 2024 we are at \$274,218.36. Total increase of \$18,718.36 from initial investment. The finance committee will perform an annual audit in September 2024.

- **President Catherine**, there is one more thing I would like to do before we break for lunch, everyone pull out your tickets for the Flag drawing, if you did not get one raise your hand. The winner of the Flag is 8368981, Ester Reed Unit 45.
- **President Catherine,** a couple of reminders, The Americanism Lunch will take place upstairs. We will be back at 1:30pm, we have a few reports, and we will be installing Department Officers except the incoming President.
- Recessed for lunch
- **President Catherine,** we have a few reports to finish, I would like National Security to come forward and make a report.
- National Security Chairman Yvonne Drury Unit 4
 I cheated and brought year end reports to John Day DEC and made you all fill them out there. So, I had 25-year end reports.
 Phyllis Parent PDP, National Security, Portland Unit #1
- Poppy Chairman Diane Standing
 Nadine Menke Poppy Display, Stevens/Chute #4
- **NEC Krisann Owens**, nothing up to date because we aren't having a meeting until next week. Except I am going to be very honest, every unit in this Department needs to have their house in order. Your Documents, C&B's, everything needs to be in order. Know your documents. Relationships, we have ties that bind us together, because we are a veteran, related to a veteran, married to a veteran. Relationships with all post families are important.
- **President Catherine,** I have 2 things I would like to explain, 1 is if you are staying in the hotel, the room keys, Cory, Jessie, and I designed and paid for those, and you can take them with you. 2 the National President pins, is there anyone who does not have one? The Sergeant-At-Arms will be passing the pins out.

- Historian Pro-Team, Catherine Brockmann
 Linda Boone PNP, Unit History Award, Steven/Chutes Unit 4
 Gen Horne PDP, Unit Memory Book, McMinnville Unit 21
- Department Chaplain Gregoria Hernandez
- Chaplains Prayer Book, no entries
 Cherita Potter PDP Chaplain Achievement Award, no entries
- Vice President Cindy Soria, it has been a very rewarding year working with Catherine. I have learned a lot from her, and some I will be carrying over into my year. Thank you all so much for allowing me to be your Vice President a second time.

Installation Of Department Officers

Installing Officer Krisann Owens, will the current Department Officers exit the Dias? We shall now proceed with the installation of our officers with the exception of the Department President and outgoing President. The Department Sgt at Arms has brought you all forward and did a good job. You have been chosen to fill various offices of this Department. District Presidents and District Vice Presidents communicate with each other. You will familiarize yourselves with the duties of the offices you are about to assume, and always remember that the welfare and success of the Department will depend on all of you. I would like to remind you of the obligation which every Auxiliary member assumes. Will you please raise your right hand and repeat after me, I promise to perform faithfully all the duties of the office I am about to assume, and I further pledge that I am not a member of, and do not subscribe to any form of government opposed to our form of government. I congratulate the members of this Department on the choices that you have made on electing your District Presidents and Vice Presidents. Turn and face the audience, these are your newly installed District Presidents and Vice Presidents. May I have everyone rise please? You are going to all raise your right hand, state your name and repeat after me, I (name) solemnly promise to renew my pledge of service to the American Legion Auxiliary and to give wholehearted support to these District Presidents and Vice Presidents. You may be seated.

Will the Sgt at arms and assistant Sgt at arms please bring forward the current and newly elected and appointed officers of this Department? Incoming Sergeant at Arms, Gregoria Hernandez, you are responsible for the order at all meetings. For the advancement and retirement of colors and their proper care. For courtesies to guests and such other duties that may be assigned to you. For regular attendance to meetings and cooperation with the Department President. You may pass your ribbon. Assistant Sgt at Arms, Danni Gonzales you will take direction from the Sgt at

Arms and anything that she might need assistance with. Follow direction from the Department President. Pass the ribbon. Chaplain Lori Vallery, you are the spiritual leader of this Department. Your words and actions will represent our founding principles of service to God and Country. You will be responsible for observance of all religious ceremonies. It is expected that you will so dignify your office that all fellow members will follow your example. You may pass the ribbon. Secretary Debra Godwin, your duties are those of administrative, and the promptness and discretion which you meet your responsibilities. You will contribute to the success of this Department through your actions. Vice President Diane Standing, to you is given the active cooperation with the President for the development and progression of our department programs for the year. In the absence of the President, you will be prepared to assume the duties of her office. Her office carries with it the teachings of Justice. Always remember that Justice is the guiding star of light. Ribbon was passed. Parliamentarian, Pam Seelye, you have been entrusted with the policies of this Department. You are entrusted to make sure we follow the Constitution and Bylaws to the letter. Treasurer Helen Hisaw, great trust has been placed in you. You have proven to us that your dedication to this Department is heartfelt.

Prayer provided by Gregoria Hernandez.

- **President Catherine**, we would now like to hear from our newly elected Vice President Dianne Standing for some remarks.
- **Dianne,** thank you for your support, thank you for welcoming me the way you have welcomed me. It's really a blessing. I have had several women that are auxiliary in the last 2 years that has always supported me. I do have a report that I will share tomorrow about my goals.
- **President Catherine,** we are now going to hear from our newly elected President Cindy Soria.
- **Cindy,** thank you all so much for entrusting me to represent you this year as your President. I am so excited. I promise I won't let you down, let's have a great year.
- President Catherine, are there any of my officers that would like to make an announcement before we close for the day?
 We will start tomorrow morning at 8:30am, and we do not have to check in, we are done voting. We need to award the daily attendance prize before I dismiss you all. The daily attendance prize goes to Milwaukie Unit 180. With the Flag of our country in place hand salute, two. We are recessed until tomorrow morning 8:30am.

- Meeting in recess.
- 8:30am Reconvene Business Meeting, Saturday, June 15, 2024
- **President Catherine** calls meeting to order. The colors of our country are in place. Please render a hand salute to our flag, two.
- Invocation given by Chaplain Gregoria Hernandez.
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Krisann Owens NEC.
- Department President Awards, Catherine Brockmann
 Alena Friesen PDP, Unit activity award, membership of 10-25, Stevens/Chute
 Unit 4
- Nancy Kirkpatrick PDP Unit activity award, membership 76-100, North Eugene Santa/Clara Unit 83.

District President Award, Dianne Standing District 1.

I have one more award that I would like to talk about that was handed out last night at the banquet. The **Unity Award** this year is Post and Unit #2.

- Courtesy Resolution read by Resolution Chairman Yvonne Drury, for President Catherine Brockmann.
- District President Basket Drawings

District 1, Justin Smith Post 104

District 2, Maggie Lamont Unit 43

District 3, Tracy Peets Unit 6

District 4, Kathi Green Post 180

District 5, Lori Vallery Unit 57

District 6, Donated \$370 to Presidents Project

District 8, Ginny Williams Unit 29

District 9, Ted Schaffer Post 25

District 10, Marika Terpsma Unit 59

ALA Bag, Jody Marsh Unit 99

Flanders Field, Tracy Peets

Metal Sign, Allyison Kropf Post 158

• President Catherine, Department President Report

Helen just passed me a note. The president's project has approximately \$7532. What a year! I was able to travel over 7,500 miles throughout Oregon. I visited 25 of 55 Units and I was able to meet in person 6 national visitors. As you can guess it was an extremely busy year as well as being the most rewarding in learning about our family in this great state. We celebrated birthdays with parties' new members with a tea and families with a Fun Day. We also attended funerals for those that have passed, which helps us keep our perspective on the present. We don't know how long we'll have to do what we want so we need to make the most of every day now. Have you ever met a National President or Commander? If you haven't you need to. They are amazing people. It was scary to think I was going to be President at our Department this year. I can't imagine how scary it would be to be the National President. I would recommend that everyone make the effort to see the national visitors that come to our department. They are not here to judge they are here to learn what we are doing, how we are doing it, and to spread enthusiasm for being a member of our organization. As the President I represented our Auxiliary at events and was able to further our visibility in the state. I was able to attend the closing of Boys State, law Enforcement Career Camp, and the Department finals for the Oratorical contest. I also attended a Vietnam Veteran Memorial groundbreaking ceremony in Salem, the Oregon veteran home Christmas gift shop in The Dalles, and the dedication of the memorial to Gold Star Families in Ontario. As I traveled the state I met members for the first time, saw members that I'd met before and really learned about the great things we do at our Units. Each unit is unique based on circumstances, but we all work on the programs and support our veteran's communities and the youth. While visiting with different members it was easy to see who has the potential, the drive to want things done. These members can be our next leaders. We need to encourage and strengthen their confidence in their abilities. We all need a cheerleader to help us believe we're capable of doing great things. Be someone's cheerleader. Thank you all for a wonderful year. I have learned a great deal but still have much to learn. No one knows everything so it takes all of us working together to accomplish our goals thank you chairman for the awesome job you've done and working your program thank you officers for your support through the year. I will never forget all the great memories I've made this year. Thank you to all who have made this year a success.

- Unfinished Business, none
- New Business, none

- **Announcements,** Post-Convention DEC meeting will begin at 12:30, after lunch in this room. The Victory party will begin at 4pm, held on the 2nd floor in the Hazel room.
- **Daily Attendance Prize,** Unit 57, Newberg.
- **Krisann Owens,** All PDP's come to the podium please, Madame President, on behalf of the Past Department Presidents of Oregon we would like to congratulate you on a job well done, a very well ran convention. We love your enthusiasm and drive for the mission.
- President Catherine, 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.
- Please render a hand salute to the flag of our country, two.
- Everyone on the dais is now dismissed, we will now have the President Banner exchange between Aloha 104 and Fallen 123.
- I know declare this Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Oregon Adjourned, Sine Die!