

ALA Membership Meeting

July 15, 2026

- I. Call to Order 7:05
- II. Prayer for Unit
- III. Advancement of Colors
- IV. POW/MIA Chair
- V. In Memory of our Dead
- VI. Pledge of Allegiance
- VII. Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary
- VIII. Permission to Deviate
- IX. Welcome to visitors and Post Family Dignitaries: Commander Wells, and a new face Ashley Channel who is at her first meeting with us.
- X. Roll Call –
 - a. President Jennifer Lowry
 - b. First Vice President Alana Saboor ABSENT
 - c. Second Vice President Maria Wells
 - d. Secretary Cindy Fernandez
 - e. Treasurer Tina Miller
 - f. Chaplain in Training Dandra Waxman
 - g. Historian OPEN
 - h. Sergeant-at-Arms Dollie O'Day
 - i. Asst Sergeant at Arms Kristen Issacs
 - j. Member at Large Thomas Miller
 - k. Member at Large Rosemarie Stockley
 - l. Member at large Betsy Hoover ABSENT
 - m. Parliamentarian Gillian Woodstrom
 - n. Past Presidents Rep Linda Malsbary
- XI. Installation of Officer Kristen Isaacs as Assistant Sergeant at Arms: officiated by Madam District 22 President Gillian Woodstrom, with Linda Malsbary as Sergeant-at-Arms and Tina Miller as Chaplain.
- XII. Approval of Minutes from Past Meeting: Linda Malsbary moved to accept the minutes as written, Tina Miller seconded the motion, and it was passed. Minutes will be filed.
- XIII. Post Report from Commander or TAL Rep: Commander Wells offered thanks for all of the hard work that the Auxiliary did to support the Fireworks stand and for other events that were held last month. Introduced the future event, Dollar Dog Night. Legion appreciates the work we do as a family, Sons, Riders and Auxiliary who make this Post what it is. At Convention, they always know who Unit 164 is. We are a model Unit.

Officer and Committee Chair -All Reports need to be in writing using the Auxiliary Report Form attached to the invite unless you have nothing to report. Reports should be emailed to the Secretary and President 2 days prior to the Meeting if able.

XIV. Finance

- a. Budget and/or Monthly report presented by Amanda, her last report. Summary of June: General \$,7549.51; Girl State \$4,031.00; Poppy \$1,650.15 (includes the addition of the \$500 to move from General Acct for the computer as presented to membership). In the Main Account \$12,779.13 and Bingo \$451.53.
- b. Maria Wells moved that the 2026-2027 Budget be accepted as presented by the Executive Committee. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

XV. Officer Reports

- a. 1st Vice President
 - i. Thomas Miller moved that Ashley Channel be accepted as a voting member, Dollie O'Day seconded the motion and it passed.
- b. 2nd Vice President - announced Committee Chairs, listed below.
- c. Chaplain: Dandra Waxman is in training, and she is looking for a Care Team and will provide information for people to contact her. You'd be making phone calls, sending out cards, visiting the sick, (713-503-2568, sapphire lady74@gmail.com)
- d. Historian: OPEN Position, invited anyone to participate as Chair.
- e. Sergeant at Arms
- f. Members At Large
- g. Scholarship & Education: Dollie O'Day reported that the \$500 education scholarship was sent to The University of Texas at San Antonio for Melanie Melham. Linda shared that she sent an invitation and picture with her thanks for the scholarship.

XVI. Committee Reports

- a. Backpacks: Pat Leo
 - i. Jennifer shared that items for the backpack were reviewed and are within the budget- so look for SignUp Genius to have these packed and delivered.
- b. Ballard House: Kay DeFor and Thomas Miller
 - i. Kay shared a little about Ballard House; they provide housing and meals for veterans going through cancer treatment. This committee coordinates a dinner for those that are there.
 - ii. Jennifer shared that our goal is to get the SignUp Genius out to everyone and all that communication will come from Maria Wells, and any information related to meetings will come from Jennifer. The ALA unit website does not currently have links to all of the events coming up but will once venues are committed.
- c. Blanket Brigade: OPEN
- d. Breakfast with our Veterans: Alana Saboor and Maria Wells

- i. Jennifer shared that tonight there are tins and recipes for people to pick up to support the breakfast.
 - ii. Maria shared last month, 72 volunteer hours, 119 breakfasts served, \$245 from the Basket. \$147 worth of food donations were received.
- e. Parties/Dinners
 - i. First Responders Dinner: Linda Malsbary and Janna (possibly) to co-chair
 - ii. Christmas Party: Linda and Gillian
 - iii. Post/Aux Birthday Party: OPEN (about March 15, 2027)
- f. Festivals & Parades
 - i. Rice Festival: OPEN
 - 1. If anyone is interested in collecting items for each of the service baskets let Jennifer know.
 - ii. Safety Fest: Not being done this year
 - iii. Trunk or Treat: Rosie Stokley and Jennifer Lowry
- g. 4 Chaplains: Feb 6, 2027, Dandra Waxman and Jennifer Lowry
- h. Girl State: Tina Miller, Charlotte Haynes
 - i. Tina Miller shared that June 14-20th, Paid \$4,031, Collected \$1,333, 48 volunteer hours, 70 girls interviewed, ALA Scholarship paid out 10, \$320.50, 42 girls attended, 89 transported which included our unit and other girls from our district. The auxiliary donated the leftover snacks and water to the fireworks stand. The Riders escorted the bus out to Sealy which created a lot of excitement on the bus and everyone involved. Plan to invite them again next year.
- i. Patriot Day: Alana Sabor, Linda Malsbary
 - i. 9/11 from 5-8pm and there is a lot of excitement in the community around this so come out to help.
- j. Public Relations
 - i. KCM Picnic: OPEN go to the event and talk to the public about what our organization does and encourage new members to join.
 - ii. Fire Fighters Pancake Breakfast: OPEN funds from these raffle baskets goes to the training fund for Firefighters Association.
- k. Poppies: Thomas Miller
- l. Raffle Baskets: Jennifery Lowry - she is looking for someone who has some ideas for basket themes.
- m. Pies for Hope: Maria and Amanda
 - i. Tables are being scheduled to get the public to help us sponsor these pies.
- n. Stakeholders Jennifer and Marsha Jacobs
 - i. Marsha shared that different Veterans organizations come out to share what their Veterans need and how we can work together to help. Combined Arms was wondering if we could support a drive thru event where we can have a food drive for Veterans.
- o. Scholarships/Education: Dollie O'Day

- p. Turkeys for Vets - Linda and Thomas, and Adopt a Family: Linda, Tina, and Kay
Both of these require help with collecting and delivering, so always looking for help to put these boxes together.
- q. VA Table: Marsha Jacobs and Thomas Miller
 - i. Marsha shared that she loves the flyers that we create and she shares with veterans on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month when she goes to the VA Hospital. These flyers help get the word out with the community.
- r. WAA: Gillian with Linda, Cindy, Maria and Jennifer
 - i. Gillian shared that the SignUp Genius will go out soon where you can help get the public to sponsor wreaths for the program.
- s. Widows Lunch: Sandy Seaton, went to Babbins with Sandy, Kay and Connie. They normally go on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month. Kay can help with communication so you know where they will be when Sandy sends out the information.
- t. Women Veterans Day: Jennifer Lowry
 - i. Commander shared that there is a room in the Post dedicated to a woman Veteran, Thelma Lewis, who was part of our unit and died at 105.

Maria Wells moved that the Committee Chairs be accepted as presented and Tina Miller seconded. Motion carried.

XVII. President's Report

XVIII. Other Business

- a. Signers for Bank account
 - i. Remove Amanda and Linda
 - ii. Add Maria
 - iii. Leave on account Tina and Jennifer

Motion was made by Dollie to accept the list of signers as listed, and seconded by Maria Wells. Motion was carried.

XIX. Unfinished Business

- a. Convention Report
 - i. Recognition for our Narrative Submission for Education
 - ii. Recognition for Leadership Certificate for participation in the program and submitting our reports.
 - iii. Congratulations for reaching all of our membership goals for 2024-2025 year. Ribbon is already on our Unit Flag.
 - iv. Americanism Award for our Americanism program at Unit 164.
 - v. American Legion Service Not Self Award - community service award from the Department President. Came with 2 \$25 gift cards. Linda Malsbary moved that the \$50 gift cards go into 2 different raffle baskets that go back into the community and seconded by Tina Miller. Ashley made an

amendment to the motion to have one of those baskets be presented to the Ballard House. Tina Miller seconded it. During discussion, Dollie presented the thought that we may have to ask Ballard House for permission. Ashley decided to withdraw her amendment. The original motion was restated and was passed by the membership.

- vi. From the Department, Certificate presented to Tina Miller as an Outstanding Member of her Unit because of the roles that she has held throughout the years and participation in a variety of committees and programs.

XX. New Business

a. Hopes and Aspirations for the Unit

- i. Be watching for the links that are at the bottom of every Evite and available for you to review before each meeting. You can open it and have access to the most current information. These will be for the meeting agenda, executive committee minutes and any additional information to be shared prior to the membership meeting. Links for SignUp Genesis will be attached to each event in the Auxiliary Calendar on our website.
- ii. SmileAssociates Program. Linda Malsbary shared information about our link to the SmileAssociates Program. When we spend money on Amazon using our special amazon smileassociates link, the Auxiliary will get 1.5% donated to us, and it comes to the Unit each quarter. You **must** go to the link provided **first**, select SHOP NOW, then login to your Amazon account and do your usual shopping. Flyers provided.

XXI. For the Good of the Auxiliary

- a. Certificate of Recognition to Kristen for assistance at Reel Event on July 26th. She stepped in when our chair person was suddenly not able to fulfill her obligations. The event went very well as she stepped up to finish the event and closed it out.
- b. Certificate of Recognition to Janna for also stepping up when the chair couldn't be there; and retrieving everything from the Post, transporting it to the site, setting up the table and staying there for most of the event.

XXII. Announcements

- a. Tina moved to allocate \$600 for a computer to be used by the Treasurer, and \$200 for the software for the treasurer's computer. Seconded by Charlotte. Tina did proceed to explain that you should not use your personal home computer to manage a business that is not your own. The previous computer was purchased in 2012.
- b. Commander Wells shared that the Post will have a table to share information with the community on August 1st, 10-12pm at Maude Marks Library on Westgreen and Highland Knolls. The Auxiliary is invited to participate.

- c. One of the programs that we are creating is a Mentor program that allows us to provide a mentor to new members. They would be a resource for new members to gain knowledge from more senior Auxiliary members. Mentors can share some of the programs we have and how a new member can participate in these or be on a committee. Some of our Board has stepped up and offered to be a mentor to help with this.
- d. Thomas Miller introduced our Dollar Dog event that is being held on August 19th before our monthly membership meeting. Commander Wells shared that they had extra hot dogs, and we decided to support the endeavor to get rid of the dogs. Same night that our Girl State participants will be there. Girls and their families and our family and friends can attend. \$3 for a meal of a hot dog, chips and drink. Great opportunity to share with others so spread the word. It will be at 6:00PM before the meeting. Thomas moved to have this Dollar Dog Day on August 19th as presented. Charlotte Haynes seconded. Discussed that this invite is for everyone in our Unit 164 family and for the community. The motion was passed.

XXIII. Upcoming Events

- a. July 21st Post Membership Meeting
- b. July 24th Sons of the American Legion Dinner & Bingo 6-7:30 \$10
- c. July 31st Auxiliary Luncheon Tad's Louisiana Cooking (FM 1463) 11:30am
- d. Aug 1st Breakfast with A Veteran Elks Lodge 7-10am
- e. Aug 3rd Auxiliary Exec Meeting 7pm
- f. Aug 4th Post Exec Meeting
- g. Aug 6th VA Stakeholders Meeting
- h. Aug 6th Son's Meeting 7pm
- i. Aug 11th Newsletter Submissions Due
- j. Aug 13th Post Night Out Midway BBQ (6025 Hwy Blvd Katy) 6-8pm
- k. Aug 18th Post Membership Meeting 7pm
- l. Aug 19th Auxiliary Membership Meeting 6pm Doors open 6:30 Training 7pm Meeting Starts
- m. Aug 28th Auxiliary Luncheon Location TBD
- n. Sept 1st Post Exec Committee 7pm
- o. Sept 3rd VA Stakeholders Meeting

XXIV. Prayer for Peace

XXV. Recover the POW/MIA Flag

XXVI. Adjournment at 8:50pm