

VETERANS of FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK
98th STATE CONVENTION- ALBANY, NEW YORK, JUNE 8-10, 2023
“United to Win the Race for Our Veterans and Their Families” “Hands that Heal, Hearts that Care.”

National Representative: National President Jane Reape

Thursday June 8, 2023

OPENING SESSIONS

Thursday, June 8- Kim White, Treasurer and Convention Chairman

Friday June 9- Morning Session- Nina LeFrois, PDP

Friday June 9- Afternoon Session- Mary Kreuzer, PDP

Saturday June 10- Helen Weeks, PDP

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

President	Lisa Raplee	Banner Bearer	Joan Russell
Senior Vice President	Rose Cooper	POW/MIA Bearer	John Horsky
Junior Vice President	Darlene Baker	Color Bearer #1	Mary Jane Wasmund
Secretary	Chris Leavor	Color Bearer #2	Kathleen Hayward
Treasurer	Kim White	Color Bearer #3	Lynne Loga
Chaplain	Justine Robles	Color Bearer #4	Marie McClumpha
Conductress	Belinda Cole	Musician	Becky King
Guard	Charlene Hooper	Soloist	Esther Reape
Chief of Staff	Marianne McLane, PDP	Asst. Conductress	Vanessa Preston
Patriotic Instructor	Tamara Cummings	Asst. Guard	Dolores Sheeley
Historian	Kellianne Martini	Official Visit Coordinator	Bonnie Burgy, PDP
Flag Bearer	Carol Kraus	Program Coordinator	Irene Rohde, PDP

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

District #1	Margie Ginn	District #6	Raymond Sheldon, Sr
District #2	Denise Thomas	District #7	Ronald Boyd
District #3	Belinda Cole	District #8	Tina Roberts
District #4	Peggy Schweitzer	District #9	Judy Lefebvre
District #5	Agnes Stamp		

CONVENTION APPOINTMENTS

Advisor to Department President	Helen Weeks, PDP	Judge	Bonnie Burgy, PDP
Aide to National President	Patricia Gennarelli	Tellers	Phyllis Roseboom Ruth Huber, PDP
Officers' March	Nina LeFrois PDP	Memorial Address	Margaret Bergeron, PDP
Auxiliary Convention Chairman	Kim White	Officers' Reports	Irene Rohde, PDP Barbara Hodges, PDP
Audit of VAVS Books	Darlene Stanton, PDP Karen Dotson, PDP	Presentation of Colors	Nina LeFrois, PDP
Line Officer Rehearsal	Jane Reape, PDP	Convention Recorder	Chris Leavor
Presentation of 45 + Members	Karen Dotson, PDP	Presentation of Pages	Debbie Casella PDP Patricia Gennarelli
Bylaws Committee	Debbie Casella, PD Agnes Stamp	Presentation of PDPs	Judy Lefebvre Tina Roberts
Convention Rules	Nina LeFrois Peggy Schweitzer	Resolutions Committee	Helen Weeks, PDP Ron Boyd
Credentials	Lynn Halstead, Phyllis Roseboom Kathy Macris		

Convention Pages

President: Flora Becker, Jackie Cosh
Senior Vice President: Ann Davis, Kathy Blake
Junior Vice President: Sharon West
Secretary: Lorene Ortiz
Treasurer: Denise White
Chaplain: Melinda Ingoglio

Conductress: Linda Loparco
Guard: Joan Barnhart
Chief of Staff: Deanna Guyette
Floor Officers: Amy Darling
District Presidents: Donna Caudy
Jill Kenney
Past Department Presidents: Margaret Sheldon

Convention Rules

All provisions of the National Bylaws shall govern and are hereby incorporated by reference. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be recognized as the Parliamentary Authority for the Convention, with the following procedures:

1. Delegates

- A. Delegates and/or Alternates representing delegates shall show their current dues card at the Credentials desk to be eligible to vote at the Convention.
- B. Auxiliaries delinquent in sending in audit reports to the Department Treasurer will not be eligible to vote.

2. Motions, Debate, and Voting

- A. Only registered delegates may make motions and vote.
- B. Any Auxiliary member may ask questions, or if that member has information that may resolve their question, they may, with permission, state such information.
- C. Each member addressing the presiding officer shall state their name and Auxiliary number and wait to be recognized.
- D. Debate shall be limited to two (2) minutes for each person per question. A motion to extend or limit debate requires a second. No debate requires a 2/3 vote of delegates present and voting.
- E. No member shall speak the third time on any question, except by general consent.
- F. The official timekeeper shall call time at the end of the time allowed a speaker or question.
- G. The signatures of a minimum of four (4) delegates from four (4) different Auxiliaries shall be required to move for a roll call vote on any specific question. A majority vote of delegates shall be required to approve the motion for a roll call vote.

3. Nominations and Election of Officers

- A. Registration of credentials for voting will close Friday June 9, 2023 at 11:00AM.
- B. Nomination of Officers shall be made from the floor.
- C. Voting for the election of officers shall be by acclamation or by Roll Call vote by District and Officers.
- D. Should there be any question on the Roll Call figure, the Chairman of Credentials shall poll the District by Auxiliaries of the District.

- E. Should it be necessary for a member to leave during the election of any one officer, they shall not be permitted to re-enter until that particular election has been completed.
 - F. When there are more than two (2) nominees running for the same office, and no one receives the majority of votes, the nominee receiving the lowest number of votes on each ballot shall be excluded in further balloting.
 - G. Eastern Conference Delegates will be the Senior Vice President, Junior Vice President, Treasurer, and Chaplain. Alternates will be the Conductor/Conductress Guard, and two (2) Past Department Presidents who are members of the Council of Administration.
- 4. Orders of the Day**
- A. The Official Convention Program shall constitute the Orders of the day.
 - B. The Department President shall be empowered to effect program changes for the best interest of the members.
- 5. Miscellaneous**
- A. All communications to the platform or persons in the Assembly, shall be made by an Official Page.
 - B. No information shall be released to the Press unless approved by the Department President or the Convention Chairman.
 - C. Members entering or leaving the room shall do so quietly.
 - D. No one shall move about the room, leave the room, or be allowed to enter while a speaker is on the floor, or while a motion is under consideration.
 - E. Convention proceedings may be video and/or audio recorded by the Convention Recorder. Individual members cannot record any portion of any Auxiliary meeting without prior knowledge of the body.
 - F. Members using a camera on the Convention floor shall not pass between the Altar and the presiding Officer's station and shall not otherwise obstruct the view of the delegates.
 - G. Members shall not move about the room to take pictures during the Memorial Service as that distracts from the solemnity of the service.
 - H. The Convention Assembly will remain seated and refrain from talking or other distraction while the Department Chaplain is proceeding to and from the Altar and shall remain seated until they return to their station and the gavel is sounded.
 - I. Smoking, use of tobacco, e-cigarettes, or consumption of alcohol is not allowed in the meeting room while the Convention is in session.
 - J. Cell phones and other electronic devices shall be set to off, mute, or vibrate mode during the entire meeting.
- 6. These rules may be suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting.**

Rules Committee: Nina LeFrois, PDP and Peggy Schweitzer District 4 President

Thursday June 8, 2023

Opening and Officers' March The 98th Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary to the Department of New York was opened at 8:10AM by PDP Nina LeFrois, who presented the 2022-2023 officers. The officers performed the Cross of Malta during their opening march. There was a huge round of applause for the officers as they entered. President Lisa Raplee was escorted to the dais.

PDP LeFrois turned the meeting over to Convention Chairman Kim White. Kim made introductory remarks and presented President Lisa with her badge and gavel and presented the National Representative National President Jane Reape with her convention badge. Lisa said thank you to Nina and Kim and to the members for the warm welcome.

Roll Call : The Department Secretary Chris Leavor called the roll of officers. Absent were Jr Vice Darlene Baker who left early because a baby (not hers) was on the way. Historian Kellianne Martini, pro tem was Linda LaRosa; District President #2 Denise Thomas, pro tem was Craig Keitel District Jr. Vice President-Elect; District President #3 is a line officer, her pro-tem was Sr. Vice President Rebecca Sweet.

Past Department Presidents absent were Edith Horst, Sandra Flynn, Donna Emo, Sharon Connolly, Arlene Eysaman, Kathy Zylko, Sally Gagnon, Cindy Campbell, Sharlene Allen, Jackie Herbert, Denise McHugh, and Darlene Stanton.

Appointed Officers absent were Color Bearer #1 Mary Jane Wasmund pro-tem was Charlene Favata; Color Bearer #2 Kathleen Hayward pro tem was Amy Darling; Assistant Conductress Vanessa Preston pro tem was Maryellen DesForge; POW-MIA Flag Bearer John Horsky (was filling another position) his pro tem was John Sanford; Assistant Guard Dolores Sheeley pro tem was John Horsky; and Assistant Soloist Ryan Hitchcock- no pro tem.

All program Chairmen were present except Historian/Media Relations Kellianne Martini, Veterans & Family Support Doris "Dee" Ippolito, and Mentoring for Leadership PDP Darlene Stanton.

Deputy Chiefs of Staff absent were District 1 Barbara Wasserman, District 2 Dolores Sheeley, District 5 Jr. Vice Darlene Baker, District 8 Phyllis Walker, and District 11 Anne Anderson.

Call to Order

President Lisa called the meeting to order. The meeting was opened according to the ritual. Color Bearers were ordered to secure and present the colors. Chaplain Justine Robles offered the opening prayer. Patriotic Instructor Tamara Cummings lead the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Soloist Esther Reape singing the National Anthem accompanied by Department Musician Becky King.

National Representative: President Raplee did NOT read the bio for National President Jane Reape, the National Representative to this Convention, because Madam Jane would NOT allow it, Jane was escorted by the Conductress Belinda Cole and Assistant Conductress Pro Tem Mary Ellen DesForge with the colors into the room and to the Aisle of Honor. The members and the President welcomed her.

Guests: The Conductress and Assistant Conductress next escorted National District Council Member #4 Bonnie Burgy PDP, Eastern Conference President Karen Dotson and , National Officers Nina LeFrois PDP National Color Bearer #3, National Assistant Guard and Madam National President's personal Secretary

Marianne McLane PDP, and National Assistant Musician Becky King. They were welcomed and thanked for attending.

Recognition of Others in the Audience: President Raplee next asked if any Gold Star Mothers in the room would stand to be recognized. Then she called upon any Blue Star Mothers/Families to please stand. Then White Star Families, and Veterans in the room. Lastly, she called on any first-time attendees to stand.

Convention Chairman: Lisa thanked Kim White for serving as Convention Chairman and the hard work it entailed. She said it is not a small task and we are all very appreciative of the results. Kim was Convention Chairman as well as Registration Chairman and Flower Chairman. She also expressed her thanks to PDP Nina LeFrois for taking on the role of Luncheon Chairman and Council of Administration Dinner coordinator.

Presentation of Pages: Next the President called on PDP Debbie Casella and Pat Genarelli to present the pages for the Convention. Pages were: For President- Flora Becker and Jackie Cosh; Sr. Vice President- Ann Davis and Kathy Blake; Jr Vice President- Sharon West; Secretary- Lorene Ortiz; Treasurer -Denise White; Chaplain- Melinda Ingoglio; Conductress- Linda Loparco; Guard- Joan Barnhart; Chief of Staff- Deanna Guyette; District Presidents Donna Caudy/ Jill Kenney; Floor Officers-Cary Frappier; Past Department Presidents-Margaret Sheldon.

Presentation of Minutes: President Raplee announced that the minutes from the 97th Convention were previously distributed and will not be read. Hearing no objections, the minutes of the 97th annual convention stand approved as distributed.

Convention Appointments: President Lisa announced that we will dispense with the reading of the convention appointments. They have been printed and distributed in the convention folders.

Convention Rules: PDP Nina LeFrois and District 4 President Peggy Schweitzer reported that the convention rules will not be read as they have been printed and distributed in the convention folders.

A motion was made by PDP Nina LeFrois seconded by District 4 President Peggy Schweitzer to accept the 2023 Convention rules. Motion approved.

Report of Officers and Chairmen: PDPs Irene Rohde and Barbara Hodges reported that they reviewed the reports, and they are in good order and will not be read on the floor as it is now on the Department Website and available for all to read. A motion to accept the 2023 officers' reports as distributed was made by PDP Irene Rohde and seconded by PDP Barbara Hodges. Motion approved.

Department President then read her final report.

Official Communications and Announcements: Secretary summarized the communications that were read at the Council of Administration meeting the previous night and shared any announcements received.

Convention Resolutions Committee: PDP Helen Weeks and District 7 President Ron Boyd presented Resolution #1 which declared the Marriott Hotel as the official site of the Convention and proclaimed the Town of Colonie is a wonderful host community. Resolution to be presented to hotel and Supervisor of

the Town of Colonie Peter G Crummey. A motion to adopt Resolution #1 was made by PDP Helen Weeks, seconded by District President #7 Ron Boyd. Motion approved.

Nominations: President Lisa Raplee explained the procedure for making a nomination. The Chair called for nominations twice and left nominations open until tomorrow.

Nominations were:

Lisa Raplee was nominated by Sr. Vice President Rosalie Cooper. Lisa thanked her but declined the nomination.

Rosalie Cooper was nominated for President by Mary Kreuzer PDP as District six stood.

Darlene Baker was nominated for Sr Vice President by Ruth Huber PDP.

Justine Robles was nominated for Jr Vice President by Margie Ginn District 1 President.

Kim White was nominated for Treasurer by Marianne McLane PDP.

Belinda Cole was nominated for Chaplain by Lynne Loga as District 3 stood.

Charlene Hooper was nominated for Conductress by Bonnie Burgy PDP and National District Council Member #4 as District 8 stood.

Deanna Guyette was nominated for Guard by Soloist Esther Reape as District 4 stood.

Nominations were left open until tomorrow.

Theresa Klein Early Registration Drawing: Kim White Convention and Registration Chairman announced there was 134 members pre-registered for the convention and 11 thus far who have registered on site. She thanked PDP Nina LeFrois ,Denise White, Lynda Essenter, and Craig Keitel for their assistance. She then asked Department President Lisa to draw the name of the \$25 winner of the Theresa Klein Early Registration Drawing. All who pre-registered were entered into the drawing. The winner was District 8 President Tina Roberts.

45+ Members Presentation: PDP Karen Dotson presented 45+ year certificates to those who have been in the Auxiliary 45 or more years. Karen announced that any certificates for members not in attendance were put in the Presidents packs to be taken back to the Auxiliaries. She reported making 394 certificates and distributed them to the twenty-five members who were in attendance. Karen reported that there are 3 members with 77 years of membership and 16 with 70+ years.

Madam Chaplain closed the Bible.

Presentation of PDPs: Committee members District 9 President Judy Lefebvre and District 8 President Tina Roberts presented the Past Department Presidents.

Bible reopened.

Bylaws Committee Report: PDP Debbie Casella and District 5 President Agnes Stamp announced there were no changes proposed to the bylaws. Motion made by Agnes Stamp District 5 President, seconded by PDP Debbie Casella to accept the Bylaws Committee Report. Accepted.

The Chaplain closed the Bible, and the President announced a 15-minute break.

Bible reopened.

Program Awards: President Lisa Raplee announced we would begin our Program awards. She reminded everyone not to walk in the area between the altar and the podium as this is a sacred area. President

Lisa and National President Jane distributed the awards while the chairpersons read the awardees at the podium. It was announced that the Secretary will mail awards to Auxiliaries not in attendance.

Veterans & Family Support: Chairman Dee Ippolito was absent. The awards and report were read by the Secretary, Chris Leavor. Department President Lisa Raplee and National President Jane Reape handed out the awards as the Secretary read them.

Group 1: First-5861 (D6)	Second- 8139 (D5)	Third- 8691 (D2)
Group 2: First-3357 (D9)	Second- 6472 (D6)	Third- 546 (D1)
Group 3: First-8649 (D8)	Second- 412 (D8)	Third- 8692 (D3)
Group 4: First- 170 (D2)	Second-3146 (D5)	Third-125 (D9)
Group 5: First-309 (D9)	Second-7545 (D6)	Third-6196 (D3)
Group 6: First-6912 (D4)	Second- 1400 (D4)	Third- 8734 (D6)

District Presidential Citation: District 8 President Tina Roberts

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Veterans & Family Support Participation Award- Presented to Doris "Dee" Ippolito, Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023" Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

*The Department Secretary will see that she gets this certificate.

Buddy®Poppy/ National Home: Chairman Flora Becker read her awards. Department President Lisa Raplee and National President Jane Reape handed out the awards.

Group 1: First-5861 (D6)	Second- 2159 (D2)	Third- 8691 (D2)
Group 2: First-9594 (D3)	Second- 2913 (D1)	Third- 9251 (D8)
Group 3: First-8649 (D8)	Second- 1323 (D8)	Third- 412(D8)
Group 4: First- 6001 (D4))	Second-4915 (D4)	Third-901 (D5)
Group 5: First-5491 (D2)	Second-6196 (D3)	Third-9587 (D2)
Group 6: First-7227 (D4)	Second- 1371 (D5)	Third- 9249(D6)

District Presidential Citation: District 6 President Raymond Sheldon, Sr.

Chairman presented Department President Lisa with a gift.

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Buddy®Poppy/ National Home Participation Award- Presented to Flora Becker, Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023" Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

Auxiliary News/Webmaster: Editor Deanna Guyette spoke about some changes to the scheduling of the Auxiliary News. The last edition for this year will be only for the month of June. Order forms are in the President's pack. Price remains the same and the number of editions will remain at 6. Check the website for so much information. She thanked those who completed the surveys and said she found them very helpful. She said it appears that members want to hear more about individual Auxiliaries, and she will focus on that for the next year.

Auxiliary Outreach: Chairman Judy Lefebvre District 9 President presented. Department President Lisa Raplee and National President Jane Reape handed out the awards.

Group 1: First-4947 (D2)	Second- 8139 (D5)	Third- 5861 (D6)
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Group 2: First-416(D6)	Second- 9251 (D8)	Third- 6390 (D6)
Group 3: First-8649 (D8)	Second- 1017 (D6)	Third- 412 (D8)
Group 4: First- 1938 (D3)	Second- 7290 (D5)	Third-9592 (D10)
Group 5: First-5491 (D2)	Second-7545 (D6)	Third-6196 (D3)
Group 6: First-9249 (D6)	Second-7227 (D4)	Third- 1371 (D5)

District Presidential Citation: District 6 President Raymond Sheldon, Sr

A citation was presented to the Auxiliary with the Most Outstanding Partnership with Another Organization” to Allan Milk Memorial Auxiliary 7276 (D2).

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Auxiliary Outreach Participation Award- Presented to Judy Lefebvre, Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023” Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

The president called for announcements:

All delegates were reminded to register at the credentials table before 11AM Friday. The Massing of the Colors and Joint Memorial Service will begin at 1:00PM. Line officers will be seated on the dais.

Auxiliaries carrying flags were told to line up outside the main ballroom around 12:15. The Testimonial Dinner tonight will begin with cocktails at 5 and dinner served at 6.

Tomorrow the meeting will open at 8:00AM

Meeting adjourned with the closing of the Bible.

Friday, June 9, 2023 AM Session

PDP Nina LeFrois opened the Friday morning session. After her opening remarks, she turned the meeting over to Department President Lisa Raplee. President Lisa called the meeting to order at 8:00AM.

Chaplain Justine Robles opened the Bible.

The Secretary called the roll of officers, Chairmen, and PDPs. The following were absent: Chairmen- Veterans & Family Support Doris “Dee” Ippolito, Historian/Media Relations Kellianne Martini, and Mentoring for Leadership PDP Darlene Stanton. PDPs absent were Edith Horst, Sandra Flynn, Donna Emo, Sharon Connolly, Arlene Eysaman, Kathy Zylko, Sally Gagnon, Cindy Campbell, Sharlene Allen, Jackie Herbert, Denise McHugh, and Darlene Stanton.

Karen Dotson PDP and Charlene Hooper Department Guard presented the Audit Report for the VAVS books. VAVS reps in attendance were given their stipend checks. Those not in attendance will receive theirs in the mail from Kim White Department Treasurer.

Credentials: Lynn Halstead, Chairman reported: 9 PDPs, 12 officers, 1 delegate for District 1, 10 for District 2, 18 for District 3, 13 for District 4, 9 for District 5, 19 for District 6, 2 for District 7, 5 for District 8, 3 for District 9, 1 for District 10, and 0 for District 11. She also explained that though there are no District Auxiliary in District 10 or 11, there are still auxiliaries there and if they are in attendance, they need to go out to her table and register their credentials.

Program Awards:

Cancer Grant Fund: Chairman Lori Tunkel reported over \$30,000.00 was raised this year.

Extension/Revitalization: Chairman Chief of Staff Marianne McLane PDP presented. Department President Lisa Raplee and National President Jane Reape handed out the awards.

The award for organizing a new Auxiliary was presented to Charlene Hooper for organizing 8726 in District 8. The Chairman also presented a special citation to District 6 President, Raymond Sheldon Sr for the hard work he did helping his Auxiliaries and members.

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Extension & Revitalization Participation Award- Presented to Marianne McLane, Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023" Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

Mentoring for Leadership: Chairman Darlene Stanton PDP expressed her disappointment missing the convention due to running over herself with her own car! The Secretary read her report while Department President Lisa Raplee and National President Jane Reape distributed the awards.

Group 1: First-8691 (D2)	Second- 973 (D2)	Third- 8137 (D5)
Group 2: First-416 (D6)	Second- 2913 (D11)	Third- 7338 (D3)
Group 3: First-8649 (D8)	Second- 2354 (D5)	Third- 7289 (D5)
Group 4: First- 942 (D3)	Second- 9592 (D10)	Third-1938 (D3)
Group 5: First-1384 (D9)	Second-5491 (D2)	Third-1231 (D9)
Group 6: First-7227 (D4)	Second-2522 (D6)	Third- 8734 (D6)

District Presidential Citation: District 8 President Tina Roberts

Most Outstanding Mentor/Leader by membership group:

Gr1: Agnes Stamp Aux 8137 (D5) Gr 2: Marion Palumbo Aux 465 (D8) Gr 3: Kim White Aux 357 (D3)
Gr 4: Linda Flanagan Aux 3146 (D5) Gr 5: Ann Marie Vicario Aux 5491 (D2)
Gr 6: Cindy Campbell Aux 6433 (D8)

Most Outstanding "Driver" for recruiting the most new members in each membership group:

Gr 1: Rita Johnson Aux 3350 (D10)+_9 Gr 2: James McElroy Aux 6811 (D4)+2
Gr 3: Charlene Hooper Aux 1323 (D8) +21 Gr 4: Marcia Williams Aux 6001 (D4)+13
Gr 5: Barbara MacPhee Aux 1384 (D10) + 13 Gr 6: Lisa Hickock Aux 524 (D5)+22

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Mentoring for Leadership Participation Award- Presented to Darlene Stanton, Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023" Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

Spring Conference Final Report: Conference Chairman PDP Nina LeFrois reported there were 181 preregistered for the Conference and 161 for the luncheon.

Official Visit Coordinator: Inspections need to be completed by December 15, 2023. Will be meeting with District Presidents at OTI. Expressed appreciation for the inspectors who help the District Presidents and visit the auxiliaries.

Legislative: Chairman Ron Boyd (District 7 President) presented. Department President Lisa Raplee and National President Jane Reape handed out the awards as the Secretary read them.

Group 1: First-4947 (D2)	Second- 5861 (D6)	Third- 313 (D7)
Group 2: First-2913 (D11)	Second- 4658 (D8)	Third- 416 (D6)
Group 3: First-8649 (D8)	Second- 6778 (D8)	Third- 412 (D8)
Group 4: First- 125 (D9)	Second- 7290 (D5)	Third-1374 (D2)
Group 5: First-1231 (D9)	Second-5260 (D6)	Third-2883 (D8)
Group 6: First-6433 (D8)	Second-2522 (D6)	Third- 1371 (D5)

District Presidential Citation: District 8 President Tina Roberts

A citation and \$50 was presented to the most Outstanding Auxiliary excelling in Legislative education – Aux 8649 and a citation and \$50 to the most Outstanding Auxiliary excelling in Legislative participation- Aux 8649.

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Legislative Participation Award- Presented to Ronald Boyd, Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023” Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

Membership: Chairman Marcia Williams announced the “Race” as Lisa’s drivers ran the courses and presented her “Race Day” awards

Turn 1: Auxiliaries that attained 30% of its annual members: Aux 8961 District 7 -\$100

Turn 2: Auxiliaries that attained 85%: Aux 2718 District 1 \$100

Turn 3: Auxiliaries that attained 95%: Aux 6001 District 4

Turn 4: Auxiliaries that attained 100% by Dec. 31: Aux 546 District 1.

Crossing the finish line for auxiliaries that had 100% plus 1: Aux 6912 District 4

Caution flag Auxiliaries recruiting 5 new members or rejoined- receives a life membership to present to a worthy member: Aux 3350 District 10

Membership drive with at least 1 new member: Aux 982 District 4

Membership drive with 5 new members- at least being a life member: Aux 8647 District 6

Membership drive with 10 new members and 3 life: Aux 6533 District 6

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Membership Participation Award- Presented to Marcia Williams, Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023” Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

The Department needed ten members to make 101%. Eleven new member applications were received today, making the Department of New York 101%!

Scholarships: Chairman PDP Ruth Huber read her report and awardees while President Lisa and National President Jane handed out the awards.

Group 1: First-2718 (D10)	Second-8139 (D5)	Third- 5861 (D6)
Group 2: First-416 (D8)	Second- 5798 (D6)	Third- 7172 (D2)
Group 3: First-412 (D8)	Second- 8649 (D8)	Third- 1017 (D6)
Group 4: First-7127 (D5)	Second-6001 (D4)	Third-7290 (D5)
Group 5: First-7545 (D6)	Second-6196 (D3)	Third-1384 (D10)
Group 6: First-1143 (D9)	Second-9249 (D6)	Third-7227 (D4)

District Presidential Citation: District 6 President Raymond Sheldon, Sr.

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Scholarships Participation Award- Presented to Ruth Huber, Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023" Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

Americanism: Chairman Tamara Cummings read her awards. Department President Lisa Raplee and National President Jane Reape handed out the awards.

Group 1: First-4947 (D2)	Second-8139 (D5)	Third- 5861 (D6)
Group 2: First-9594 (D3)	Second- 6776 (D3)	Third- 5798 (D6)
Group 3: First-8649 (D8)	Second- 1017 (D6)	Third- 8444 (D3)
Group 4: First-358 (D3)	Second-4915 (D4)	Third-125 (D9)
Group 5: First-309 (D9)	Second-5491 (D2)	Third-478 (D5)
Group 6: First-7227 (D4)	Second-6433 (D8)	Third-8734 (D6)

District Presidential Citation: District 6 President Raymond Sheldon, Sr.

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Americanism Participation Award- Presented to Tamara Cummings, Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023" Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

Massing of the Colors: Chairman presented citations to sixteen Auxiliaries for participating yesterday at the massing of the Colors.

Hospital:

Chairman Peggy Schweitzer read her awards. Department President Lisa Raplee and National President Jane Reape handed out the awards.

Group 1: First-2159 (D2)	Second- 5861 (D6)	Third-2718 (D2)
Group 2: First-416 (D6)	Second- 7291(D3)	Third-2913(D11)
Group 3: First-412 (D8)	Second-8692 (D3)	Third-1017 (D6)
Group 4: First-7127 (D5)	Second-3146 (D5)	Third-8259 (D4)
	*Honorable Mention 9592 (D10)	
Group 5: First-1231 (D9)	Second-6251 (D6)	Third-5913 (D2)
	*Honorable Mention 5491 (D2)	

Group 6: First-9249 (D6)	Second-6433 (D8)	Third-7227 (D4)
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District Presidential Citation: District 6 President Raymond Sheldon, Sr.

Two entries for Hospital Awards #1 were forwarded to National from Waterloo Aux 6433 District 8 and Edward & Moses Wells Aux 125 District 9.

Hospital Volunteer of the Year Outstanding Hospital Volunteer award: Patricia Gabriel from Auxiliary 2159 District 2 received a plaque and \$100.00.

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Hospital Participation Award- Presented to Peggy Schweitzer Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023" Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

Youth Activities: Chairman Melinda Ingoglio read her awards. Department President Lisa Raplee and National President Jane Reape handed out the awards.

Group 1: First-5861 (D6)	Second- 8137 (D5)	Third- 8139 (D5)
Group 2: First-416 (D6)	Second- 6776 (D3)	Third- 1314 (D3)
Group 3: First-8649 (D8)	Second- 412 (D8)	Third- 1017 (D6)
Group 4: First- 7127 (D5)	Second-125 (D9)	Third-1374 (D2)
Group 5: First-7545 (D6)	Second-1384 (D10)	Third-1483 (D7)
Group 6: First-8734 (D6)	Second- 1400 (D4)	Third-7227 (D4)

District Presidential Citation: District 8 President Tina Roberts

National President Jane Reape presented the Chairman with a citation that read: “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary-Youth Activities Participation Award- Presented to Melinda Ingoglio Chairman-Department of New York-For your participation in this Program-2022-2023” Signed National President Jane Reape and National Secretary Ann Panteleakos.

Chaplain closed the Bible.

Presidents Special Project: Homelessness through the VA: Chairman Charlene Hooper had one award for the Most Unique Fundraiser which was won by Auxiliary 2064 for their “Mad Hatter Tea Party” District 6 presented a check for \$545.00.

Chaplain reopened the Bible:

Guests: Special guests Donna Abare from the Capital Region Blue Star Mothers Chapter 2 was escorted in with the colors. She received a very warm reception and addressed the membership.

The Conductress with the colors escorted Past Grand MOCA Irene Rohde and new Grand of the Department of NY Ruth Huber to the dais. Next, they brought Gold Star Mother Ann Davis.

Ann gave a very emotional address to the membership. She thanked President Lisa and Jane for honoring the Gold Star Mothers and allowing her to represent them.

Past Grand Irene Rohde PDP invited current Cootie Auxiliary members to stand. The Members still seated were asked to join. Newly elected Grand Ruth Huber talked about the organization and what they do.

A fifteen-minute break was then held to prepare for the Memorial Service. Those guests on the dais were invited to remain.

Chaplain closed the Bible.

Break

Chaplain reopened the Bible.

The Conductress draped the Charter in memory of Past National President Helen Harsh who went to her Heavenly home on May 25, 2023, and Past Department President Terry McGarr who went to her Heavenly home on June 6, 2023.

One verse of "Nearer My God to Thee" was sung. The Conductress and Chaplain were then directed to prepare the altar for the Memorial Service.

The President asked the Chaplain to preside over the Traditional Memorial Service. While President Lisa placed flowers on the altar Secretary Chris Leavor read the deceased members: Four Past National Presidents- Marion Watson (1981-1982), Glenneta Vogelsang (1984-1985), Sandy Germany (2005-2006), and Helen Harsh (1994-1995); two Past Department Presidents Florence Banks (1993-1994) and Terry McGarr (2004-2005). District 1-4 District 2-21 District 3-40 District 4-42 District 5-79 District 6-64 District 7-11 District 8-25 District 9-19 District 10-5 District 11-5 Members-at-Large
4 Total: 325

Soloist Esther Reape sang "May the Road Rise to Meet You" by Lori True accompanied on the piano by National Assistant Musician (and Department Musician) Becky King. The Memorial Address was delivered by Past Department President Margaret "Peg" Bergeron and a recording of Diamond Rio singing "One More Day" was played.

Following the Benediction, Conductress Belinda Cole and Chaplain Justine Robles rearranged the altar.

The President thanked the floor team and Conductress and PDP Bergeron for the beautiful Memorial Address.

President Lisa announced that we were preparing to adjourn for the Awards Luncheon which will begin at noon in the Empire Room. The meeting will resume in this meeting room at 2:30PM. She asked all to remain still and silent while the Chaplain closed the Bible and the meeting was adjourned for the luncheon.

During the Awards luncheon, the following were recognized as the Outstanding Presidents and runners-up Presidents of the year by membership group.

Group I- President of the Year: Ann Ferguson Aux 5861 D6
Runner up :Lorena Bennett Aux 8691 D7

Group II- President of the Year: Joann Fentner Aux 416 D6
Runner up: Nancy Barrett Aux 2913 D11

Group III- President of the Year: Tina Roberts Aux 8649 D8
Runner up: Karen Dotson Aux 412 D8

Group IV- President of the Year: Donna Bates Aux 3146 D5
Runner up: Charlie Peterson Aux 942 D3

Group V- President of the Year: Amy Darling Aux 7545 D6
Runner up: Cheryl Pearson Aux 1231 D9

Group VI- President of the Year: Deanna Guyette Aux 7227 D4
Runner up: Kathleen Blake Aux 9249 D6

District President of the Year: District 8 President Tina Roberts
Runner up: District 6 President Raymond Sheldon Sr.

Ways and Means Drawings: Chairman Linda Flanagan held the drawings for the Nine-Month Calendar raffle for May and June. May- \$120 Bobbie Rogers Auxiliary 5260 D6 June-\$220 District 6 Aux

The Pot of Gold Drawing for Ways and Means was also drawn:

\$1500- Aux 9487 D6	\$1000- Aux 7127 D5	\$500- Aux 2064 D2
\$500- Amanda Irwin Aux 6472 D6		\$500- Aux 1384 D11
\$100-Aux 2246 D4	\$100- Aux 3357 D9	\$100-Aux 6472 D6
\$100- District 4 Aux	\$100- Sarah & Jeff Platt Aux 6338 D9	

\$100- James McElroy Aux 6811 D4
\$100- Aux 9487 D6

\$100-Aux 6338 D9
\$100 Mary Ellen Prell Aux 6251 D6

Aux -1231 D9

Friday June 9, 2023
PM Session

Past Department President Mary Kreuzer opened the afternoon session. She said it was a pleasure and noted that President Lisa was one of her “angels” when she was Department President. She then presented President Lisa with the gavel to begin the afternoon session.

President Lisa called the afternoon session of the Convention to order at 2:30PM.

Madam Chaplain Justine Robles opened the Bible.

Credentials Report: Credentials Chairman Lynn Halstead was called on to give a final credentials report. She reported Nine PDPs, thirteen officers, two from District 1, twenty-five from District 2, fifty-seven from District 3, fifty-three from District 4, forty-two from District 5, seventy-three from District 6, seven from District 7, twelve from District 8, thirteen from District 9, six from District 10, and none from District 11 for a total of two hundred ninety-three needing one hundred forty-seven to elect.

Elections: President Lisa reminded the members that no one may leave during any one election except for valid reason, and that no one may enter until that one officer has been elected. She also stated that if there is a discrepancy it must be addressed immediately and that once the convention is closed and the bylaws have been followed the outcome of an election may not be disputed.

The floor was then opened for nominations. Nominations were called for twice on Thursday so will only be called for one time today. The President appointed PDP Bonnie Burgy as Judge and PDP Ruth Huber and Phyllis Roseboom as tellers.

On Thursday, the name of Rosalie Cooper was placed in nomination for the office of Department President. After asking if there were any further nominations, Rosalie Cooper was elected by acclamation as Department of NY President for the ensuing year. Sister Cooper accepted the office, thanked her Auxiliary, and her District, and pledged herself to do her best and support the Auxiliary and the VFW.

After asking for nominations once more there were no more nominations, and the following officers were elected by acclamation for the ensuing year:

Sr. Vice President Darlene Baker
Jr. Vice President Justine Robles
Treasurer Kim White
Chaplain Belinda Cole
Conductress Charlene Hooper
Guard Deanna “Dee Dee” Guyette

President Lisa declared the election closed and dismissed the Judge and Tellers with thanks.

OTI Report: OTI Dean Helen Weeks PDP encouraged everyone to attend OTI which will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Binghamton again this year. The reservation form is in the Convention folders and on the Department web site. Last year's evaluations indicated members found this location superior to the University, and some changes are in store for this year. There have been inquiries about three people in a room, so she announced that with three people in a room for one night is \$130/person and for two nights is \$175/person. Dinner will be served at 5:30PM on Friday night.

Announcements: President Lisa asked the Secretary for any announcements. Announcements included the request from President-elect Rose for the incoming District presidents to come to room 718 ½ hour after we adjourn to meet with her and then get their President's bag. The Secretary then called on the 2022-2023 District Presidents to come forward. They presented Lisa with a beautiful bracelet with all of their names engraved on it.

President Lisa announced that the Saturday session would not start until 9:00AM (applause) and then asked the Chaplain to close the Bible and the meeting was adjourned.

Saturday June 10, 2023

PDP and Presidential Advisor Helen Weeks opened this session of the Convention, told President Lisa that she hoped she would have good memories of her year as Department President and turned the meeting over to Department President Lisa to open.

President Lisa Raplee called the Saturday session of the Department Convention meeting to order at 9:01 AM. Madam Chaplain Justine Robles was called on to open the Bible.

Roll Call: The Secretary called the roll of Officers and PDPs. The following officers were absent: District President #2 Denise Thomas, Chair filled by Jr Vice Craig Keitel, District #3 President- present as a line officer- chair filled by Sr. Vice Rebecca Sweet, District President #4 Peggy Schweitzer- chair was filled by Elmora Fletcher. PDPs absent: Edith Horst, Sandra Flynn, Donna Emo, Sharon Connolly, Arlene Eysaman, Kathy Zylko, Sally Gagnon, Cindy Campbell, Sharlene Allen, Jackie Herbert, Denise McHugh, Darlene Stanton, and Debbie Casella.

Madam President requested Sr Vice president Rose Cooper to come to her station and take command of the meeting. President Lisa, National President Jane Reape, and Advisor Helen Weeks PDP went to visit the VFW.

President-elect Cooper introduced her Chairmen and they in turn introduced their programs: Veterans & Family Support Chairman Doris "Dee" Ippolito was absent. Kathy Blake Aux 9249 President presented for her.

Americanism- John Horsky

Buddy Poppy/ National Home- Flora Becker

Auxiliary Outreach Chairman Peggy Schweitzer was absent. Joan Barnhart, president of Auxiliary 982 presented for her.

Hospital- Agnes Stamp presented a "Non-traditional Holiday" Challenge.

Legislative- Georgian Davis

Extension & Revitalization- Marianne McLane PDP

Special Project Higher Ground- Marcia Williams

Youth Activities- Ruth Huber PDP

Cancer Grant- Phyllis Roseboom

Mentoring for Leadership- Judy Lefebvre
Scholarships- Joan Barnhart
Official Visits- Bonnie Burgy PDP
Program Coordinator- Irene Rohde PDP
Membership- Lisa Raplee was out of the room.

President Lisa returned and was escorted by the Conductress and the colors to the Aisle of Honor. She brought news that the Department of NY will not have a hospitality room at the National Convention. The expense of the room available was exorbitant.

National President Jane Reape addressed the members. She offered some National Convention updates. She also said we need to “replace ourselves.” We need to be seeking out new talent- for officers and Chairmanships. The current ones need to mentor the new talent.

Jane expressed her pride in Conductress Belinda and her floor team and the great job they did. She was very proud of the Cross of Malta performed during the Officers’ march at the beginning of the convention and hopes it will continue. Jane said the Memorial Service was beautiful and said that when visiting Departments this year in lieu of a gift she has been making a donation to the President’s Special project- which she then made to Lisa’s. Thanks to yesterday, the Department’s membership is 101% and the “Beast from the East” is leading overall with over 102%.

PDP Helen Weeks responded.

President Lisa thanked and expressed pride in her District, Auxiliary, and her Advisor.

Linda Flanagan District 13 President, Secretary, and Treasurer reported her District is over 200% and raised \$355 for Cancer Grant Fund.

There were gifts presented to Madam President from the Secretary, PDP Stanton- presented on her behalf by Treasurer Kim White, the Lie Officers, and President-elect Rose Cooper. National President Jane had a gift for her Aide Pat Genarelli.

Short break to prepare for installation. Bible closed.

Bible reopened.

Installation of Officers: PDP Mary kreuzer was selected to install the 2023-2024 officers of the Department of New York VFW Auxiliary. The installing Conductresses were Kathy Blake and Georgian Davis.

The officers were brought forward as the Secretary read the names. President Rosalie Cooper was escorted to the altar by her son Fred.

Officers installed: Sr. Vice President Darlene Baker, Jr Vice President Justine Robles, Treasurer Kim White, Secretary Chris Leavor, Chaplain Belinda Cole, Conductress Charlene Hooper, Guard Deanna Guyette, Jr Past President Lisa Raplee, District 1 President Margie Ginn, District 3 President Rebecca Sweet, District 5 President David Bennett, District 6 President Monica Ordway, District 7 President Ron Boyd, District 8 President Tina Roberts, District 9 President Judy Lefebvre, Patriotic Instructor John Horsky, Color Bearer #1 Lynn Loga, Color Bearer #2 Craig Keitel, Color Bearer #3 Marie McClumpha, Color Bearer #4 John Sanford, Flag Bearer Carol Kraus, Banner Bearer Joan Russell, Prisoner of War/ Missing in Action Flag Bearer Margaret Sheldon, Musician Becky King, Soloist Esther Reape, Assistant Soloist Mary Makosky, Assistant Conductress Jackie Cosh, Assistant Guard Deborah Fucina.

- Deputy Chiefs of Staff were asked to stand at their seats to take their oath- District 2 Linda LaRosa, District 3 Belinda Cole, Lynne Loga, District 4 Joan Barnhart, Bonnie Burgy PDP, Marcia Williams, District 5 Darlene Baker, Linda Flanagan, Lynn Halstead, District 6 Kathy Blake, Ruth Huber, Margaret Sheldon, Chris Leavor District 7 Charlene Favata, and District 9 Judy Lefebvre, Marlene Webster
- The following will need to be installed at Fall Conference: District 2 and 4 Presidents Historian and Deputy Chiefs of Staff- District 1 Barbara Wasserman, Dora Burks, District 3 Lynda Essenter, District 8 Cindy Campbell, Phyllis Walker, and District 11 Anne Anderson.

After the installation, Rose introduced her family- son, parents, sister. She spoke briefly and expressed her thanks to those who have supported her and to PDP Mary for the nominations and for installing her. President-elect Rose then asked the 2022-2023 officers to return to their chairs. She turned the meeting back over to President Lisa.

The Secretary asked the Conductress and Assistant Conductress to escort Lisa and Helen Weeks to the altar. Helen presented Lisa with her Past President's pin.

The Secretary then requested Chaplain Robles to close the Bible.

The Past Department Presidents then joined Helen and Lisa. They announced they had decided to accept Lisa into their ranks.

Lisa returned to the dais and Chaplain reopened the Bible.

It was announced that presentations to the new President would begin immediately following the close of the meeting. The reception will begin at 6:00PM this evening.

Jr Past Department President Lisa asked if there was anything further to come before this meeting.

Hearing no further business, she asked the officers to present themselves at the altar for the closing ceremonies. The colors were retired. Lisa declared the 98th Department of NY Convention closed with the next meeting to at the sound of the gavel.

(Time of closing was not noted.).

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Leavor

Department of NY VFW Auxiliary Secretary