



## 2011 SUMMARY OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND NATIONAL CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS AS ADOPTED

### **2011 National American Legion Auxiliary Resolutions and Amendments as Adopted**

The final proceedings of the American Legion Auxiliary Washington DC Conference National Executive Committee (NEC) Meeting are posted on the national website ALAforVeterans.org.

The 2010-11 Minutes Approval Committee has completed its review and approval of the minutes of the 2010-11 NEC Meeting held prior to National Convention and they will be posted on the national website ALAforVeterans.org.

The 2011-12 Minutes Approval Committee has completed its review and approval of the minutes of the 2011-12 NEC Meeting held following National Convention and they will be posted on the national website ALAforVeterans.org.

The proceedings of the 91<sup>st</sup> American Legion Auxiliary Annual National Convention held August 27 – September 1, 2011 in Minneapolis, MN are being published and will be posted on the national website ALAforVeterans.org.

### **Resolutions adopted by 2010-2011 National Executive Committee in 2011:**

**The 2010-2011 National Executive Committee (NEC) at its mid-winter meeting held in Washington DC on March 19, 2011 adopted the following:**

- ***Providing flexibility in scheduling the Presidents and Secretaries Conference***  
that Section III of the American Legion Auxiliary Standing Rules be amended to delete the words “as soon after the National Convention as possible” and be effective upon adoption.

**The 2010-2011 National Executive Committee (NEC) at its Pre-Convention meeting held in Minneapolis, MN on August 27, 2011 adopted the following:**

- ***Commending and supporting the American Legion Riders***  
that the American Legion Auxiliary commend The American Legion Riders for its outstanding contributions to the ideals and purpose of The American Legion Family and its accomplishments as a national program of The American Legion; and, encourage its members to recognize the impact of The Legion Riders and to support Auxiliary members who are also Legion Riders and welcome and encourage their involvement as participants and leaders in Auxiliary meetings and events.
- ***Congratulating participants and commending volunteers supporting Ride 2 Recovery***  
that the American Legion Auxiliary congratulate the more than 200 injured veterans and their supporters participating in the five-day, 270-mile 2011 Ride 2 Recovery Great Lakes Challenge to support rehabilitation for injured veterans, beginning at the Minneapolis VA Health Care System facility on August 23, 2011 and ending at the American Legion Family National Convention Saturday, August 27, 2011 in Minneapolis; and, that the American

Legion Auxiliary commend its members for their volunteer service and in-kind support at all levels provided to Ride 2 Recovery, and encourage its members to engage in community service outreach with programs such as Ride 2 Recovery that are in harmony with the Auxiliary's mission to support our veterans, servicemembers, and their families.

- ***Commending First Lady Obama and the White House Joining Forces initiative***  
that the American Legion Auxiliary commend First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden for their support of America's veterans and military and responds enthusiastically to the launching of the national Joining Forces initiative; that the American Legion Auxiliary pledges to continue answering the Joining Forces call to action, steadfastly and unassumingly, as the organization has for the past nine decades; and that with its heritage of service and history of action, the American Legion Auxiliary pledges that its contribution to Joining Forces will be to urge the 9,500 local units across the nation to organize service projects for military families in their communities and to publicize those service opportunities to the general public so that anyone in the community can join with our members to do what we all believe every single American can and should do in honor of our military and veterans.
- ***Requiring the membership card to depict a member's length of time as a member***  
that the National organization take steps to restore the system of matching the continuous years shown on the membership cards for 2013 and subsequent years to reflect the year in which a member has since belonged to the American Legion Auxiliary after her dues are paid for the membership year shown on the card by depicting the year that a member became or re-instated her membership (depicted as "Member since *year joined or re-joined*").

## **Resolutions Adopted at National Convention in 2011:**

**The 2011 American Legion Auxiliary at its National Convention general sessions held August 30-31, 2011 in Minneapolis, MN, adopted the following resolutions:**

- ***Changed the name of the Washington DC Conference, dropping the name Awareness Assembly***  
that the American Legion Auxiliary's annual convening of members in our nation's capitol be heretofore referred to as the American Legion Auxiliary Washington D.C. conference, and that that there be no requirement for nor restriction against the national organization holding, marketing or promoting the annual Washington D.C. conference by any specified name; and, that Standing Rule VI. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: #3. be amended to read: "If the National Executive Committee meets at the time of the Washington D.C. conference (emphasis added) and if facilities permit, Department Presidents may be granted permission to attend the session of the National Executive Committee.", and that any other references to Awareness Assembly in policy and other documents be changed to reference the American Legion Auxiliary Washington D.C. conference.
- ***Extended the timeframe for mailing membership renewal notices***  
that the date by which the National Headquarters mail renewal notices be extended to September 15 on the year before the membership year for which the dues are to be paid

## **Amendments Adopted at National Convention in 2011:**

**The 2011 American Legion Auxiliary at its National Convention general sessions held August 30-31, 2011 in Minneapolis, MN, adopted the following amendments:**

- *Re-wrote the Pre-Convention Section of the Standing Rules to clarify roles and to open the Constitution & Bylaws Pre-Con Meeting to all delegates*

The Standing Rule Section II, Number 6, pertaining to Convention Committees was amended to define pre-convention committees and to require the Constitution & Bylaws Pre-Convention meeting to be held openly and at a time not in conflict with any other Pre-Convention Committee meeting to allow all delegates to ask clarifying questions;

The Pre-Convention Meetings section of the Standing Rules – Standing Rule Section II, Number 6 – takes effect in the 2011-2012 administrative year, and now reads as follows:

6. There shall be the following named Convention committees. The general duties of the committees shall be to consider matters assigned to such committees, to consider matters specifically referred to them by the Convention, and to conduct other business as described in this section.

a) There shall be the following special Convention committees:

- 1) Committee on Credentials: The purpose of the Committee on Credentials is to receive and verify the credentials of the Departments and to handle all matters pertaining to the contestation of delegates.
- 2) Committee on Rules: The purpose of the Committee on Rules is to formulate the rules under which the Convention shall operate.
- 3) Committee on Resolutions: The purpose of the Committee on Resolutions is to receive resolutions and refer them to the proper Pre-Convention Committees, and to formulate such Convention resolutions not within the jurisdiction of the other established Pre-Convention Committees as listed in this section. This committee shall meet in advance of the other Pre-Convention Committee meetings to allow ample time to properly assign the resolutions to the other Pre-Convention Committees prior to their convening. This committee has no authority to take any action on a resolution other than to refer it to the appropriate Pre-Convention Committee, unless there is a written opinion from Counsel General that a resolution is illegal and can cause the organization, its officers, its National Executive Committee members, appointees and other members to become liable. In such an event, the Committee on Resolutions shall report said action to the Convention body.

At the Pre-Convention Meeting of the Committee on Resolutions, resolutions not within the jurisdiction of any other Pre-Convention Committee shall be presented for explanation by a member of the Committee on Resolutions. Upon conclusion of discussion of each resolution, the committee may vote to either a) recommend to the convention body that a proposed resolution be adopted; b) recommend to the convention body that a proposed resolution not be adopted; or c) make no recommendation to the convention body regarding a proposed resolution. Each member of the Committee on Resolutions and one representative from each department shall be entitled to vote on the recommendation to be made to the convention body. The committee on Resolutions shall report on all resolutions to the Convention body.

b.) Any other special convention committee as deemed appropriate by the National President.

c.) Pre-Convention Committees shall exist for the National Chaplains and National Historian, and for the following standing committees:

Americanism, Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Cavalcade of Memories, Children and Youth, Community Service, Constitution & Bylaws (see additional subsection on Constitution and Bylaws in this section), Education, Finance, Girls State, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Liaison to the Child Welfare Foundation, Membership, National Security, Past Presidents Parley, Poppy, Public Relations, and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation.

The Pre-Convention Committees for the National Chaplain and National Historian shall be comprised of the national officer plus one member assigned by each department. These Pre-Convention Committees that correlate to the standing committees shall be comprised of members of the correlating standing committee plus one member assigned by each department.

The purpose of these Pre-Convention Committee meetings is to consider and to make recommendations upon subject matters assigned, to receive reports from their corresponding committees, to review accomplishments and best practices of the year, to recognize committee members, departments, units or others for exemplary achievements, to insure a smooth transition to the incoming standing committee and to offer recommendations regarding goals and other pertinent matters to foster advancement and fulfillment of the Auxiliary's mission, and to make a recommendation on each proposal assigned to it by the Resolutions Committee. Upon conclusion of open discussion regarding each proposal, the committee may vote to either a) recommend to the convention body that a proposal be adopted; b) recommend to the convention body that a proposal not be adopted; or c) make no recommendation to the convention body regarding a proposal.

All Pre-Convention Committee meetings shall be open to all delegates. Only those delegates assigned to the Pre-Convention Committee shall have voice and vote, unless authorized by a majority vote of the Pre-Convention Committee, in which case voice only may be granted. Each proposal shall be presented for explanation by a member of the Pre-Convention Committee. Upon conclusion of open discussion of each proposal the committee may vote to either a) recommend to the convention body that a proposed resolution be adopted; b) recommend to the convention body that a proposed resolution not be adopted; or c) make no recommendation to the convention body regarding a proposed resolution. Each member of a Pre-Convention Committee and one representative assigned from each department shall be entitled to vote on the recommendation to be made to the convention body.

d.) The purpose of the Pre-Convention Committee on Constitution and Bylaws is to receive and consider all proposed amendments to the governing documents that are to be presented to the convention body, and to verify that amendments adopted by the Convention are correctly incorporated into the governing documents.

The purpose of the Pre-Convention meeting of the Pre-Convention Committee on Constitution and Bylaws is to clarify the meaning of the proposals.

The Pre-Convention Committee meeting on Constitution and Bylaws shall be open to all national convention delegates and shall be held at a time that does not conflict with the

meetings of all other Pre-Convention Committees. Each proposed amendment shall be presented for explanation by a member of the Pre-Convention Committee on Constitution and Bylaws. Any delegate may ask a clarifying question. Such questions from non-members of the Pre-Convention Committee on Constitution and Bylaws shall be limited to clarifying the intent or purpose of a proposal. There shall be no debate on the merits of the proposal based on clarifying questions from non-members of the committee. Upon conclusion of open discussion regarding clarification of each proposed amendment, the committee may discuss the merits of the proposal and may vote to either a) recommend to the convention body that a proposed amendment be adopted; b) recommend to the convention body that a proposed amendment not be adopted; or c) make no recommendation to the convention body regarding a proposed amendment. Each member of the Pre-Convention Committee on Constitution and Bylaws and one representative assigned from each department shall be entitled to vote on the recommendation to be made to the convention body.

- ***Changed the annual amount of national senior membership dues***

Article IX, Section 3 was amended to read: The National per capita dues shall be one dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per annum for Junior members, and nine dollars (\$9.00) per annum for Senior members, effective in the 2013 membership year, and shall include a subscription to the American Legion Auxiliary National Magazine for Senior members. Each Department shall remit the National per capita dues promptly to the National Treasurer at least once each month.

### **Resolutions adopted by 2011-2012 National Executive Committee in 2011:**

#### **The 2011-2012 National Executive Committee (NEC) at its Post-Convention meeting held in Minneapolis, MN on August 27, 2011 adopted the following:**

- ***Approving the FY2012 annual national budgets and national appointments***

The NEC adopted separate motions that approved the FY2012 annual national budget for the American Legion Auxiliary and American Legion Auxiliary Foundation, and affirmed the national appointments of the 2011-2012 National President Kris Nelson and the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation directors. These actions are annually executed via motions from the NEC, not by resolutions.

#### **The 2011-2012 National Executive Committee (NEC) at its virtual meeting held November 30, 2011 adopted the following:**

- ***Approved establishing an ALA Affinity Credit Card Program with USAA***

that the American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters is authorized to enter into an agreement with USAA to establish an affinity credit card program as a member benefit that will initially be offered in the Spring of 2012.

###

*End of 2011 Annual Summary – NEC/Convention Resolutions/Amendments*