

The Honor Society of Women Legionnaires



THE NATIONAL JEEP

The Official Publication of The National Twenty and Four Honor Society of Women Legionnaires **June 2024**

Editor: Diane Schmidt, PND

Ethel Matuschka, Editor Emeritus



Georgiann "Gigi" Callaway, National Director VIP

I love the summer, Hello Sunshine! It is my favorite time of the year.

The trip to Washington DC is always challenging. However, this year it was to attend the 27th Annual Memorial Day Program at The Military Women's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

It is always a humbling experience. The weather was warm that day of the program, and we were fortunate that it was held inside. The day before, we (PNDs Cheri Stanton. Diane Schmidt and I), were able to spend time with Virginia's Echelon #24 Director Rita Chandler, Tonya L. Meunier, and Joyce Miller. The dinner and camaraderie were enjoyable. The 27th Annual Memorial Day Program at The Military Women's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery was a packed event. The event included formal military honors, remarks from current and former servicewomen from each of the military services, and a keynote address by the Honorable Christine Elizabeth Wormuth the United States Secretary of the Army. Everyone needed to have a tissue. It was an honor to present a wreath this year. I would like to express my gratitude for all who attended. Furthermore, I understood that membership may have grown there too!

It is now the time to focus on the final preparations for the National Bivouac! I am asking that you RSVP to the 2024 Bivouac very soon. It is recommended that you connect with your Echelon Aide. She will send in your registration and fees. I personally ask that you extend the invitation for the banquet to your Department Commanders and Auxiliary Presidents as well as all officers from your Department's Division, Area, District and Posts to attend YOUR National 2024 Bivouac Banquet. Most of all encourage your friends and family to attend with you too! There are several articles provided herein regarding the registration and Bivouac. If you have questions, please reach out to the either the Bivouac NMI or National Aide.

Have a nice Jeepette Summer day.

Semper Fortis For God, Family and Country, warm regards

Photo: Joyce Miller, Echelon 24 Director Rita Chandler, PND Diane Schmidt, PND Cheri Stanton, the Honorable Christine Elizabeth Wormuth the United States Secretary of the Army, National Director Gigi Callaway, and Tonya L. Meunier at 27th Annual Memorial Day Program at The Military Women's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.





Mildred Wright Pearson, Senior Vice National Director Mswp48@gmail.com (559) 250-8247 (text/voice msg) (559) 68-7876 ((fax)



Jan Lepinski, Junior Vice National Director

Greetings Sisters!

I am sorry that I have not had an article in the last couple of Jeeps, but I have

been facing some challenges this past winter. But I am now renewed and excited!

We are approaching an active summer and getting ready for our annual National Bivouac. I have been busy with Legion activities, but have also been busy creating items for a Super Silent Auction at our Bivouac. You may not be aware, but I am a crafter. I am attaching photos of some of the items I have made so far for the auction. So bring your checkbooks! There will be at least 10 items to bid on. Remember, this is to support our organization! I am also asking everyone attending to bring something that you have at home that is in good condition for a drawing table. If you wish to donate more than one item, feel free to do so! If we all pitch in, we can raise a lot of money!

I am looking forward to seeing all of you, and making this a successful fundraising year

Yours in Service to Our Veterans

Yours in Service to Our Veterans jlepinski@aol.com 312.305.9789.









Tweila-Rochelle Cauthen, Sky Pilot

Just returned from another phenomenal year serving as a judge for The American Legion National

Oratorical Contest. These young scholars generally hail from the 50 states including Puerto Rico and The Department of France. Based upon what was presented, I am optimistic about our future national leaders.

Sunday, things took a turn. I was asked about my all red suit, and I took the opportunity to talk about the Twenty and Four. It was surprising to discover that many legionnaires at the District and Department level had never heard about our Order or mission.

I took the moment to share as I reflected up on the privilege I had to represent Echelon 35 as the featured presenter at a Four Chaplains event. We also participated in an outdoor line dancing event (NO I am not a line dancer), but we were in the cold to raise money and donations for female hygiene products for the women that were admitted at the VA hospital psyche ward.

Not a month goes by...l receive calls, or an email requesting prayers or meditations for various concerns ranging from health reports or words of comfort regarding adult children in tumultuous marriages.

"By nature every human being loves oneself. But by helping another, you are building your own happy future. We should be wise-selfish rather than foolish-selfish.". The Dalai Lama.

Enough said!

Direct from Judi Bieschel, Disbursing Director

Just a note: I thought you would like to hear (about me) from the horse's mouth. I came home from the hospital today (May 21) on day 22. My first stay was 26 days followed by 14 days in an assisted living facility, YUK! Still have a lot of PT to do and I'm trying to put on a few pounds as I got down to 94 pounds. On the first goaround, they removed ½ of my right foot. That didn't heal well so after dragging around a wound vac for a month, we bit the bullet and went back for a below the knee amputation. My 16 staples came out yesterday. I got my shrinker sock today so I'm on the mend and looking forward to seeing all of you in New Orleans.

> Love, Judi



Lisa Dayhoff, National Aide

As the weather down here in Texas gets hotter, we must turn our thoughts to the final preparations for our National Bivouac. Please remember that you

must be registered with this National Office in order to be a legal attendee at our Bivouac. Give your name and hotel information to your Echelon Aide and she will send your registration information and \$5.00 registration fee to me for advance registration. Have your Bivouac registration into me by August 1, 2024. It is important for these registrations to be submitted on time. Pre-printed name badges will be available for delegates who have completed their registration at the Bivouac registration table. Note that I am NOT handling banquet ticket sales, so please do not send those to me or it will cause delays in getting your reservations confirmed.

I have received updates from several Echelon Aides that have brought our current official totals up to 83.44% of goal for the year. Seven Echelons have reached or surpassed 100% of their total membership from last year and four Echelons have reached or surpassed 100% of Goal. At this time there is only one Echelon that has not sent in a transmittal. Current membership counts by Echelon can be seen on the website at https:// twentyandfour.org/blog/membership-counts/. This page is updated as transmittals are processed with the date posted clearly on the page.

Remember to submit your Report to Annual Bivouac by July 15, 2024. You can submit it by email or snail mail. It would be nice to have 100% participation. Also, send me your officer certification for 2024-2025.

Until the next issue, be kind to one another and remember we are all human with our own strengths and weaknesses. We all have the same goal; to help this organization not only survive but thrive. Together we can make a difference for our sisters in arms.

401 Long Run Liberty Hill, TX 78642 (254)338-6465 lisa.dayhoff@gmail.com

Colleen Heck Service Director

Before you know it, August will be here with The American Legion National Convention and OUR Bivouac.

I am so looking forward to seeing everyone and meeting new veterans. I am especially excited to learn what everyone has done for women veterans and new ideas for the future.

Some things to include for your report:

- Observation Buddy checks
- Woman veterans' visits
- ♦ Running errands
- ♦ Women's committees
- Onations for women veterans
- Over the second seco
- A Having baby showers for women veterans
- O Purchasing or making items for homeless women

veterans

- ♦ Assisting in finding resources for women veterans
- Fundraising for women veterans needs
- Collecting clothes, toiletries, children items, diapers, underwear, and home items
- ◊ Babysitting
- Tutoring children

Email your report to me at iheck@ionet.net by July 15 if possible so that I can provide a total from all our Echelons. Thank you and see you soon.

602 290-5568 iheck@ionet.net

CALL to 68th ANNUAL NATIONAL BIVOUAC AUGUST 23 – 24, 2024 New Orleans, LA

PURPOSE

*To elect National Officers

*To amend the National Constitution and Bylaws if necessary *To transact such business as necessary

*To meet and enjoy one another's company

REPRESENTATION

The Bivouac shall be composed of delegates from all Echelons. Each Echelon shall be entitled to five (5) delegates and five alternates, plus one additional delegate and alternate for each fifty (50) paid members. All Echelons that are in good standing by July 15, 2024, will be entitled to representation at the Bivouac. Members of the National Cadre from each Echelon shall be delegates to the National Bivouac with the right of the vote. This vote shall be exercised with their respective Echelons.

Echelons (all) 5 delegates and 5 alternates 50 + members 1 additional delegate and alternate 76 thru 125 members 2 additional delegates and alternates

DELEGATES

Only paid-up members for the year 2023 are entitled to be a member of the Cadre, a Delegate or Alternate Delegate to the Bivouac. A member is paid up when \$13.00 per capita for the current year has been received by the National Aide 40 days (July 15, 2024) prior to the National Bivouac. No per capita will be accepted for Bivouac count after that date nor will any Jeepette be listed on the Bivouac registry or receive a Bivouac badge.

CREDENTIALS

Blank forms will be furnished to all Echelon Aides. The credentials form (Delegate/Alternate Registration Form) must be returned to the National Aide by August 7, 2024. Accompanying the Credential form shall be a check in payment as per this schedule: \$10.00 for the Echelon and \$5.00 for each Jeepette listed on the form. If a Jeepette is deemed to be filling more than one position, do not list her twice. She is to be listed ONLY IN THE HIGHEST POSITION. Thatis: Past National Director, Current National Officer, National Cadre Member, Echelon Delegate and finally, Alternate Delegate. ALL positions require \$5.00 for each Jeepette listed.

Delegate/Alternate Delegate badges will be issued at the Bivouac for all Jeepettes registered. In extenuating circumstances, registration corrections may be made by theNational Aide and Echelon Officers must be present. The Echelon must have been registered and fees paid PRIOR to arrival at Bivouac.

Endorsement for Mildred Wright Pearson, National Director VIP, 20+4:

Members of Echelon 1-CA hereby endorse Mildred Wright Pearson for candidacy for the office of National Director for the year 2024 – 2025. Mildred has been a member of Echelon 1, 20+4, for 12 years now and is a very active Legionnaire in the Department of California as well as other veteran organizations and community involvement efforts.

She is currently the Senior Vice Director of National 20+4 and past Junior Vice Director having raised record funds for this organization during the 2022–2023-year, a past Director VIP of Echelon 1, served as a National Cadre Member representing Echelon 1 at the 2021 National Bivouac, and worked with the Bivouac Finance Committee to establish a Budget for the 2022 year. She also served as National CQ.

It is the considered opinion of our Echelon that she will continue to serve this organization actively and represent it well. We urge you to accept this endorsement of Mildred Wright-Pearson, Echelon 1-CA, as a candidate for the Office of National Director and advance this nomination for consideration at the upcoming 2024 National Bivouac in New Orleans, LA.

Roxanne Jones Director, Echelon 1-CA 20&4 Marilyn Rideaux Aide, Echelon 1-CA 20&4 the Assistant CQ for the 2022-2023 year, CQ for the 2023-2024 year, as well as the Echelon 35 2nd Vice from 2020-2022 and 1st Vice from 2022 to present; a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 8 years; the 40 & 8 for 8 years; the 8 and 40 for 8 years; and serves as the Department of Arizona Children and Youth Chair for 2020 to present as well as the Department of Arizona VA&VR Chair for 2022-present. Colleen is an 8 year Paid Up for Life member of The American Legion and serves on the Department of Arizona Women Veteran's Committee and Children and Youth Committee. She is additionally a 10-year member of the VFW, and

WHEREAS, the members of Echelon 35 have affirmatively voted to support Colleen's candidacy for Sky Pilot of the National 20 & 4 in belief that she will continue to provide guidance to veterans and members of the community in need of assistance; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution will be distributed to all Echelons by way of the JEEP requesting their support and vote for this outstanding candidate, Colleen Heck for the position of National Sky Pilot

Respectfully submitted

Bobbie J. Kimelton
Aide/Disbursing Officer
Echelon 35
20 & 4

RESOLUTION OF CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT

WHEREAS, Arizona Echelon 35 has a rich history of demonstrated leadership and outstanding representation of women veterans and women Legionnaires; and

WHEREAS, One of those outstanding Legionnaires is Colleen Heck, who has a demonstrated track record of serving veterans and the community; and

WHEREAS, Colleen has been a member of the American Legion for 9 years and a member of the Honor Society of Women Legionnaires, Echelon 35 for 9 years, and

WHEREAS, Colleen has served the National 20 & 4 as

Virginia's Echelon #24 Director Rita Chandler (center), Tonya L. Meunier (left), with National Director Callaway.



Photos provided by: Cheri Stanton, PND

Taken at the 27th Annual Memorial Day Program at The Military Women's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery

RESOLUTION OF CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT

WHEREAS, Arizona Echelon 35 has a rich history of demonstrated leadership and outstanding representation of women veterans and women Legionnaires; and

WHEREAS, One of those outstanding Legionnaires is Tweila Rochelle-Cauthen, who has a demonstrated track record of serving veterans and the community; and

WHEREAS, Tweila has been a member of the American Legion for years and a member of the Honor Society of Women Legionnaires, Echelon 35 for 3 years, and

WHEREAS, Tweila has served the National 20 & 4 as the Sky Pilot for the 2023-2024 year, has been a member of Echelon 35 for 3 years, has been a member of the American Legion for years, Department Commander for the Department of D.C., D.C. Girls State Director 2023-Present, D.C. Oratorical Chair 2022-Present, and National American Legion College Alumni Association Board Member 2023-Present. Tweila is also a member of the East Coast Marine Corps Drill Instructor's Association, VP of Membership for the Military Veterans Community Club and owns a non-profit engaged in providing services for homeless veterans.

WHEREAS, the members of Echelon 35 have affirmatively voted to support Tweila's candidacy for 2nd Vice of the National 20 & 4 in belief that she will continue to provide guidance to veterans and members of the community in need of assistance; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution will be distributed to all Echelons by way of the JEEP requesting their support and vote for this outstanding candidate, Tweila Rochelle Cauthen for the position of National 2nd Vice.

Respectfully submitted

Elizabeth Nehring Director VIP Echelon 35 20 & 4 Bobbie J. Kimelton Aide/Disbursing Officer Echelon 35 20 & 4

RESOLUTION OF CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT

WHEREAS, Arizona Echelon 35 has a rich history of demonstrated leadership and outstanding representation of women veterans and women Legionnaires; and

WHEREAS, one of those outstanding Legionnaires is Judi Beischel, who has a demonstrated track record of serving veterans and the community; and

WHEREAS, Judi has been a member of the American Legion for 23 years and a member of the Honor Society of Women Legionnaires, Echelon 35 for 21 years, and

WHEREAS, Judi has served that 20 & 4 as the National Disbursing Director from 2016 to the present; Department of Arizona National Executive Committee Member 2015-2023, Department of Arizona Commander 2013-2014, Department of Arizona Vice Commander for Area 2011-2012, Department of Arizona District 12 Commander 2009-2010 and an American Legion Auxiliary member for 45 years, and

WHEREAS, The members of Echelon 35 have affirmatively voted to support Judi's candidacy for Disbursing Director of the National 20 & 4 in belief that she will continue to make sure that all financial transactions are true, accurate and cost effective and in the best interest of our organization; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution will be distributed to all Echelons by way of the JEEP requesting their support and vote for this outstanding candidate, Judi Beischel, for the position of National Disbursing Director.

Respectfully submitted

Elizabeth Nehring	Bobbie J. Kimelton
Director VIP	Aide/Disbursing Officer
Echelon 35	Echelon 35
20 & 4	20 & 4

Publisher's Note: Per the Director, Echelon 35 may have changes at there June state meeting regard endorsements.

2024 68th NATIONAL BIVOUAC

By Bobbie J Kimelton

Now is the time to start planning for your trip to New Orleans, Louisiana, for the 2024 68th NATIONAL BIVOUAC.

Learn, share and take part in the fellowship and fun at your National Bivouac!

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as this year's Bivouac NMI 2024. It will be exciting to be seeing some familiar faces, new attendees as well as meeting our newest members at this National Bivouac in New Orleans, LA.

This year's Bivouac will be held at the New Orleans Marriott Warehouse Arts District Hotel, 859 Convention Center Blvd. New Orleans in Louisiana, on August 23-24, 2024. You will be responsible for making your own hotel arrangements. The Department of Illinois has kindly set aside rooms for this year's Bivouac. If you choose to stay at this hotel then fill out the housing form that has been provided in the June Jeep. Please note that the deadline for making reservations is July 23, 2024. Sleeping Rooms rate for rooms is \$185.76. We feel strongly that this year will sell out quickly.

Additionally, if you are staying for both the 2024 Annual National Bivouac and the National American Legion Convention you may choose to stay the entire time at this hotel, just ensure your Legion delegate dues are paid through your department.

The Bivouac Banquet will be one to remember! The theme, which is a first, will be the "Great Gatsby". One can choose to attend or theme attire or not. The importance is that you have a good time. Tickets are \$75.00 per person and must be paid in advance. There will be no tickets sold at the door. If you send money and haven't heard back from me, please contact me at 623 738 9755 or by email at roberta1552@msn.com to verify the status of your payment.

Please remit reservation payments made out to: National Twenty and Four

Send to: Bobbie J Kimelton 1708 Sailing Hawks Drive Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404 Or remit by Zelle to 6237389755

> Historical Excerpt Provided by Lisa Dayhoff

20/4, THE HONOR SOCIETY FOR WOMEN LEGIONNAIRES, 1st NATIONAL MEETINGS — Miami, Florida — October 8 & 9, 1995

Saturday Afternoon, 8 Oct. 1955, cont'd

Mrs. Meryl McDonald, President of Washington's XV's, asked for the floor and read the resolution instructing her to request this National Convention to change the Honor Society for Women Legionnaire's name to XV. She explained the pro's of this name and stated that the "X" stands for Ex-servicio, "V" stands for the 5 branches of service Women have served in through World War II. Mrs. Margaret O. Moors, Florida, then explained that the Florida Honor Society for Women Legionnaires means: "52" is the year a Florida State Non-profit Charter was granted, in Circuit Court of Orange County Florida, and the "8" stands for the branches of service women have served in, and all they'll ever serve in, up to and through the Korean situation, ie, ANC, NNC, WAVES, MARINES, YOMEN F, WAC, SPARS, WAF. Miss Mary Gordon, Echelon #1, 20/4, (Calif.) then explained out a group of 5 California women thought up the idea of this name, 20 women and, or in, 4 jeeps, art a Department Convention in Long Beach 4 years ago. She stated that the California members, of course, feel that 20/4 is the best name, but if this first National Convention wished to change the name, that would be the desire of the majority present.

Mrs, Margaret C. Moors, Senior Director 20/4 – Echelon No. 5, the mentioned the fact that 20/4 is already established and known all over the country as The Honor Society for Women Legionnaires, and if the name is changed now it would mean starting all over again and possibly loosing the ground we have gained from being recognized at the National American Legion Convention, held Washington, D., C., 1954. Much other discussion resulted the pertinent facts that there are 24 other Departments of The American Legion presently interested in joining the 20/4 and they would be utterly confused by a name change now, and that we have to think of the future that a good foundation has already been built for. As part of showing how good this future already is, Mrs. Florence English, Past Director VIP, California, (also Chairman of Organization at the National level) read the Resolution from Oregon's 1954 Department Convention, authorizing the Oregon XV's to change the organization's name to conform to the action taken by the National American Legion Convention, Wash. D.C. 1954, in recognizing the 20/4, Honor Society for Women Legionnaires. She also stated that Florida, which was organized as the 52/8 in 1952, voted in the 1954 Mid-winter Conference to change their name, and asked for permission to retain the 52/8, and became Echelon No. 5, 20/4; and that by Department mandate of the Florida Department Convention, held in Sarasota, Fla., May 1955, such change was authorized in their own home state. She then pointed out that California's Department Executive Committee authorized a committee to organize the 20/4 in 1952, and recognized the organization as an affiliate of the Dept. in Convention of 1953; Mass. Department Executive Committee recognized the 20/4 in 1954, and their resolution was the one mandated by National American Legion Convention of 1954; and the District of Columbia has recognized the Honor Society for Women Legionnaires this year, and several other Department Commanders have set up chairmen of organization in their own departments. Mrs. English stated there are 24 Departments in the process of organizing 20/4 Echelons and the facts show 5 Departments already operating as 20/4. The majority present voted to continue the National Honor Society for Women Legionnaires as the 20/4. Mrs. McDonald, then told the meeting that her XV Honor Society had also chosen an alternate name of VIP, but since the majority vote had shown the wishes to remain 20/4, she would report back to her Department and hoped they would soon be in our National Organization.

CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL OFFICE 2024-2025

Are you considering running for a National Office?

The National Elected Officers of the Twenty and Four, to be elected at the National Bivouac in New Orleans, Louisiana, shall be:

> National Director VIP National Senior Director Junior Vice Director National Sky Pilot, National CQ **Disbursing Director** National Aide

Remember that in accordance with our Twenty and Four Procedures Manual, ALL CANDIDATES must submit their endorsement from your Echelon, a bio, and a letter of intent for the Office desired to the Nominating Committee. All members of the committee are to receive these nominations prior to July 15th so that ALL CANDIDATES are included in the JEEP, if you have not done so already.

Nominees send information as outlined above as following:

> NOMINATING COMMITTEE Patricia Jackson Kelley PND, (NMI) 323-752-6252/818-472-0409 geekell@aol.com

Cheri Stanton, PND 309-734-7843 cstanton1441@gmail.com

Diane Schmidt, PND 321-217-6699 amagiangel@yahoo.com

> Cheri Stanton, PND **Scholarship Program**

This is the first year we have had TWO applicants. I would like us to fund both if possible, since we don't always get applications.



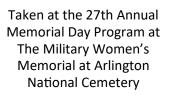
Photos provided by: Cheri Stanton, PND

Taken at the 27th Annual Memorial Day Program at The Military Women's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery



National Director interviews each Jeepette live. Photos provided by: Cheri Stanton, PND





Below: Presentation of 20&4 wreath







Montana Echelon is on the map

Submitted by Chaya Semple, Aide, MT 9

Again, Montana Echelon 9 has reached out to the Community to assist as needed.

A BIG Congratulations goes out to Denice Cook who was recently recognized by the American Red Cross for donating 15 gallons of blood to date. GO GIRL!!

Deborah Hancock and Top Hat Roger Hancock repaired the flag pole at Woodman School (a small rural school) and conducted hands-on training on flag etiquette to the students.

Sue Davidson has been very busy with Quilts of Honor. She has made many herself and collected over 70 patriotic quilts for the Veterans Home in Butte. In addition, Sue has conducted a number of quilt- making workshops to keep up with the demand. Her participation at the recent 4 Chaplains Ceremony was appreciated and noticed. Another Jeepette devoting time and energy to her Community, State and Nation.

Our Top Hat Lowel Long brought honor in his participation as he participated in our statewide 4 Chaplains Service at Fort Harrison as well as conducting a 4 Chaplains Service at his local Church.

Our Echelon has been very busy working on amending our Bylaws.



Montana Echelon 9 and American Legion Lewis and Clark Post 9 are intrigued with the recent talk given by Historian Dr Elizabeth Cook: "War is changing so incredibly fast. What folks remember in Viet Nam is long gone. We get closer and closer to 'push button" war which is reference to the Korean War. Back then it was only imagined a nuclear war. Today, it is a combination of

autonomous weapons, Artificial Intelligence, and a myriad of other supporting technologies." Photo: Dr Elizabeth Cook, Phd

Speedy recovery and prayers for one of Montana #9's ardent supporters:

TOP HAT Larry Debb (A.L. NEC) recently had heart attack and bypass surgery.

A reprint Jeep article from October 2021, Echelon 50, Alabama

WORDS

Words are powerful. Our words can incite hate and rebellion or invite peace and love and everything in between.

I hear a lot of discussion about the First Amendment "Right to Speech" from all sides of the political spectrum. But it seems like almost everyone wants to incite hate, rather than invite love. I hear a lot from people who hate people they don't know but not much about people they love.

Social media has inflated this problem. I read with sadness the venom spewed by political zealots and it seems like almost everyone has become a political zealot. What I have NOT seen is anyone at ALL who says, 'Oh, maybe you are right. I've changed my (political) mind." Words of antagonism; and hostility can only increase the great divide that already separates us. These words are great bullets that invite retaliation of greater bullets from the "enemy."

I'm getting older and gone are the days of my youth when I could sit with someone from another political party and have a discussion. I miss that. A LOT.

Hate speech can only harm. It cannot heal. It incites your political "family" to shouts of agreement, but never, NEVER changes the minds of your political opponents.

So, I love prayers. Ministers and Chaplains always put away their political biases and pray for "our leaders" whether they agree with their political views or not.

And I love my military Sisters. We speak powerful words too, but uplifting words of encouragement, love, empathy and peace. We have so much uniting us that we don't have much at all that divides us.

We are family.

Virginia Branson Echelon 50-AL

Photos provided by: Cheri Stanton, PND



Taken at the 27th Annual Memorial Day Program at The Military Women's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery





Women Leaders Provided by Lisa Dayhoff

Women have made tremendous strides in breaking down barriers and entering leadership roles within organizations, but they still face numerous challenges, especially in maledominated environments. Despite the significant progress that has been made towards gender equality in recent decades, women in leadership roles continue to encounter obstacles that can hinder their success and advancement. By understanding these challenges and developing strategies to overcome them, women can thrive in leadership positions within male-dominated organizations.

One of the primary challenges that women face in maledominated organizations is the pervasive gender bias that exists in the workplace. Stereotypes and preconceived notions about gender roles can create a hostile environment for women seeking leadership roles, leading to discrimination, lack of opportunities, and unequal treatment. Overcoming these biases requires women to assert themselves confidently, demonstrate their capabilities, and challenge stereotypes by showcasing their leadership skills and qualities.

Another challenge for women in leadership roles is the lack of representation and support networks. In male-dominated organizations, women may find themselves isolated and without access to mentorship, sponsorship, or role models who can guide and support them in their leadership journey. Building relationships and networks with other women in leadership positions, seeking out mentors, and advocating for mentorship programs within the organization can help women overcome this challenge and gain the support they need to succeed.

Moreover, work-life balance issues can be particularly challenging for women in leadership roles, especially in maledominated environments where long hours, demanding workloads, and a culture of presenteeism are prevalent. Juggling professional responsibilities with family commitments and personal life can lead to burnout and hinder women's ability to thrive in leadership positions. By setting boundaries, prioritizing self-care, and advocating for flexible work arrangements, women can better manage their work-life balance and prevent burnout.

Additionally, the lack of access to leadership development opportunities and advancement pathways can impede women's progress in male-dominated organizations. Women may encounter barriers to promotion, unequal pay, and limited opportunities for career advancement compared to their male counterparts. By seeking out leadership training programs, skill -building workshops, and opportunities for professional development, women can enhance their leadership capabilities, expand their skills, and position themselves for success in leadership roles.

In conclusion, women in leadership roles within maledominated organizations face unique challenges that require resilience, determination, and strategic navigation. By understanding and addressing these challenges head-on, women can overcome obstacles, shatter glass ceilings, and thrive in leadership positions. Through empowerment, support, and advocacy for gender diversity and inclusion, women can pave the way for future generations of female leaders and create a more equitable and diverse workplace for all. Our members are leading the way for other female veterans within The American Legion and elsewhere. We should always remember to lead by example and to treat our fellow veterans with the same respect that we expect to receive from them in return.



ARIZONA ECHELON 35 Resolution No. 4: Condolences Related to the Passing of Ann Carol Stensby

Origin: Echelon 35, Department of Arizona, twenty and Four Submitted by:

Echelon 35, Department of Arizona, Twenty and Four

Date: January 28, 2024

WHEREAS, With feelings of deep regret, Echelon 35, Department of Arizona, Twenty and Four, must record the passing of

WHEREAS, Carol served as a proud member of the American Legion for over 30 years; most recently at Post 109 where she held multiple officer positions. Carol served as the American Legion District 2 Commander for two years and Chaplain for the Department of Arizona, and

WHEREAS, Carol served as a 20 year member of Echelon 35, Department of Arizona, Twenty and Four, and was responsible for aiding women veterans who have served their country to provide aide to disabled and needy female veterans, and

WHEREAS, Carol had an outstanding reputation for recruiting "Top-Hatters" in support of Echelon 35, and

WHEREAS, We recognize the fullest extent Echelon derived benefit from the work of this Jeepette, and because of the warm personal feeling inspired in our hears by her kindly, unselfish life; therefore be it

RESOLVED, By Echelon 35, Department of Arizona, Twenty and Four in a special vote, on January 27, 2024, that we enter into the records of this Echelon a tribute to the memory of one who was held in the highest esteem and respected by all of her associates, and who, because of her kindness, courtesy and integrity, exemplified to the highest degree the teaching of our Society; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the family of our deceased Jeepette, together with the assurance of our sincerest sympathy.

May the Heavenly Father console them in their present sorrow and may these words of appreciation and high regard be solace in the years to come.

Elizabeth Nehring Director VIP Bobbie J. Kimelton Aide/Disbursing Officer





Celebrate the spirit of freedom and your patriotism on this Independence Day. May your 4th of July be bright with fireworks, warm with friends, and filled with the love of your country.



Echelon 8 IL

Angela R, Baskin

Georgiann "Gigi"

Callaway

Sonja Creekmore

Detrall "Dee" Dearborn

Natalie Dragovich

Beverly Fitch

Sandra Harke

Christine Hildebrandt Helen Hull Iris I.M. Kirschner Mary E. Kulavic Jan Lepinski Patricia Maher Deanne "Dee" Nighsonger Lisabetha Risley Cynthia Robbins Nickola Rogers Cheri Stanton Edna Taylor Annette Tincher Beverly Walker As we celebrate our country's independence we also honor those who serve to preserve our freedom. Happy 4th of July. We honor you and thank you for your contribution to our continued independence and freedom.

Greetings from Echelon 35



Aherns, Margaret Bayes, Rogna Beischel, Judith S Berger, Gerry Blaing, Emily Blair, Eszter Browng, Nancy Burns, Gilian (Gigi) Carlisle-Thompson, Patricia Cauthen, Twila Rochelle Collins, Theresa A Deatherage, Sandi De Feo, Rebecca R. Del Rosario. Rosa M Delecterc, Lisa Cckman, Lisette

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PROUD TO BE AN

Echelon 1 - CALIFORNIA "Proud To Be An American"

America is not perfect, but we are proud of her and the privilege to be called an American. <u>Freedom of Speech</u> - The U.S. is one country where you can openly express your views without the fear of being judged or face consequences. <u>Freedom of Choice</u> -One of the best things about our country is that we have freedom of choice. We can choose to be who we want to be.

We are blessed to be living in a country where the government is powerful enough to protect its people. Let's show our gratitude and pride to this great nation!

Janice Bowman Iamie Brassard Anne Marie Brown **Ethel Butler** Karen Caddel Kathy Cash Genoveva Cervantez Irene Cruz DanaRae Doub-Reed Cynthia Gaffey Magdalena Gradkowska **Donna Griggs Annette Grimsley Ruth Harris** Kathleen Heeren Hattie Hicks Patricia Jackson-Kelley PND Susan Johnson Roxanne Jones, Director VIP Marion Landis Barbara Lombrano **Tirrell McKnight** Lillian Moss Maggie Mudd **Ethel Newton-Bascomb** Monica Nichelson



Rocio Palmero Janice Price Marilyn Rideaux Danielle Romero Alejandra Sanchez Delores Shick Janice Somers Desirae Storey-Smidt Josephine Thomas Cynthia Verrill Lisa Wiebe Celeste Williams Janet Wilson Mildred Wright-Pearson

NA	ATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY OF WOMEN LEGIONNAIRES	STAR FOR THE
C	In the Red Carpet	A X E
Æ	68TH BIVOUAC BANQUET	Provide: NAME and entrée
		selection for each paid reservation: 1.
	MENU DE	
	STARTERS	Entrée:
	Assorted Breads Crescent City Salad	2.
1-175	Please select one entree for each attendee	
	Provolone and Sage Chicken Breast with Lemon Caper Sauce /Risotto/Seasonable	Entrée:
	Vegetables OR Blackened Gulf Fish with Cajun Cream Sauce, Risotto, Seasonal Vegetable OR Vegetarian Jambalaya	* indicate selection by one of the following: Chicken; or Fish; or Vegetarian.
	DESSERTS	(Use reerse side if necessary) Tickets are \$75.00 per person
	Fresh Fruit Tart DRINKS Signature Champagne Caffenated/Decaffenated Coffee	Remit payment to: National Honor Society of Women Legionnaires
	Hot Teas Bar Available	RSVP by mailing form and payment to: Bobbie Kimelton, 1708 Sailing Hawks Drive, Lake Havasu City, AZ. 86404
-	the set	Zelle payment: 6237389755 DEADLINE IS JULY 20, 2024
\$75.00 ENTRANCE AND MEAL STUB	AUGUST 23, 2024 <i>Conditions:</i> Ticket purchase must be postmarked by August to Bobbie Kimelton, 1708 Sailing Hawks Drive, L 86404, Payment may be check or by zelle at 62: No tickets will be sold at the event. It is the Jeepettes responsibility to verify that p made and received PRIOR to arrival at Biyouac.	1. 2024 and remitted
D MEAL STUB	to Bobbie Kimelton, 1708 Sailing Hawks Drive, L B6404. Payment may be check or by zelle at 62: No tickets will be sold at the event. It is the Jeepettes responsibility to verify that j made and received PRIOR to arrival at Bivouac.	37389755. purchase has been

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Our Program Book will give one the opportunity to assist in sharing the cost of our Bivouac and at the same time celebrating your organization, business, echelon, personal message, and The American Legion.



68[™] BIVOUAC

THE HONOR SOCIETY OF WOMEN LEGIONNAIRES

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AUGUST 22-23, 2024

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OUTSIDE BACK COVER:	\$350.00	BOOSTERS:	\$10.00 EACH NAME

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Mail all monies and Ad form to: Bobbie Kimelton 1708 Sailing Hawks Drive Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404 Email: <u>roberta1552@msn.com</u> Zelle payment: 6237389755

Please feel free to attach a business card (scan in) and return with order form.

For those that wish to stay at the *Bivouac hotel*, Print and send to Department of Illinois the below housing form. <u>Department of Illinois has reserved extra rooms for us for our 20&4 Bivouac</u>, if you choose.

LEASE LIST NAMES and AGES King (1-2 Name: Age Doubles (ADA Kin Name: Age:	the age of 18. * that is to attend the National Convention regardless of honsing with this form will be responsible for obtaining their own credentials. Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one) Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one) Member of: Legion Auxiliary SAL (Circle one) RESERVE THE FOLLOWING: 2 person) @ \$159.00 Arrival Date
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onvention Registration Fee: <u>\$35.00</u> urking: Valet only \$38 per day.	ROOM RATE (First night): \$159.00
uking. Valet only \$38 per day.	FIRST NIGHT ROOM RATE TAX (16.20%): \$ 26.76
	(16.20% + \$1.00 per room, per nigh
Iditional Occument in Poors: \$15 per day (Trinle/Orad)	REGISTRATION FEE (\$35 Per Person): \$
ninonai occupant in Room. 323 per uny (Tripie/Quau)	TOTAL: \$
PAYMENT METHOD: Check # Make all Checks P	Payable to: American Legion Department of Illinois
Credit Card #E	Sxp. Date/ CVC # Zip Code
MPORTANT NOTES: RECEISTRATION FEE: Each adult who will attend the National Conver the registration fee is not paid, you will have to obtain your own cred re paid to the American Legion Department of Illinois, along with :	lentials once you arrive at National Convention. All registration fee
EXAMPLATIONS AND CHANGES: All cancelations must be made in wa Teadquarters by 4:30 pm on <u>July 23, 2024</u>. If the cancellation is no irst night's lodging to the Hotel. Contact Department Headquarters O	ot in our hands by the date indicated, you will be responsible for the
ATE HOUSING RECISTRATION: You will need to make arrangements	s yourself and pay registration at the National Convention Center

NATIONAL OFFICERS & COMMITTEES 2023 – 2024

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Future Jeep Deadline Dates: July 20, 2024 for Pre-Bivouac issue. The 68th ANNUAL BIVOUAC and American Legion National Convention will be in New Orleans, Louisiana on August 22 - 29, 2024. This year's Bivouac theme will the *Great Gatsby*.

Travel Date: American Legion National Convention will be in New Orleans, Louisiana on August 22 - 29, 2024. The 68th ANNUAL BIVOUAC will be held at the New Orleans Marriott Warehouse Arts District Hotel, 859 Convention Center Blvd. New Orleans in Louisiana, on August 23-24, 2024.

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Twenty and Four The Honor Society of Women Legionnaires

> Emblem Sales 2024



Beach Tote 21x16x6" rope handle, 40/60 cotton/ polyester with top

zipper. (available in Light Blue, Black, Pink, Green, Royal Blue, Navy Blue and Yellow. All with white center band)

Cost includes Twenty and Four Logo and 1 line of text

Item # BT21166 Price \$28.00



American Boaters tote 18x16x6" 23" handle, polyester, with printable pocket.

Cost includes Twenty and Four Logo and 1 line of text

Item # ABT18166 Price \$25.00



Double compartment cooler 9.25x11.5x6" 5 colors available as shown. Main colors are: Red, Navy Blue, Black, Orange, Dark Green, Blue

Cost includes Twenty and Four Logo and 1 line of text

Item # DCC91156 Price \$28.00



your choice cap A or B (top to bottom) with the Twenty and Fourty Logo centered on the front

Cost includes Twenty and Four Logo

Item # WFBBCA Price \$17.00

Cost includes Twenty and Four Logo Item # BFBBCB Price \$17.00



your choice white or black kitchen pocket apron full length with your logo and 1 line of text

White Apron Item # WAWP Price \$17.00 Black Apron Item # WAWP Price \$17.00



Ladies polo shirts with logo and one line of text

Navy Blue Polo Shirt Item # WPNBA White Polo Shirt Item# WPW

Price \$17.00

Blue Polo Shirt Item # WPBA Black Polo Shirt Item # WPBKA

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Make Checks payable to: Twenty and Four

Name on Card			
Card Number			
CVC	Exp	card zip code	
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email			



Script sample

Century Block sample



NATIONAL TWENTY & FOUR ANNUAL SERVICE REPORT

Forward to: National Service Director, Colleen Heck (NMI)



Echelon Number:

Echelon Service Director:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

- 1. Number of women veterans visited:
- 2. Number of women veterans provided transportation:
- 3. Number of miles traveled for above or any service:
- Number of women veterans helped or provided some type of service not included in the above:
- 5. Dollar value of gifts, refreshments, service, etc.:
 - 6. Number of telephone calls and cards sent:
- 7. Dollar value of telephone calls and cards sent:
- 8. Community service of any kind:
- 9. Number of Jeepettes participating in all the above:

10.Participation in funeral/memorial services for women veterans:

a. Number of services: b. How many Jeepettes:

11.Number of Jeepettes attending funeral/memorial services for women veterans:

12. Approximate number of hours for all of the above:

13. How many VAVS representatives in total:

14. How many Deputies:

15. Volunteers:

*Number 10: "participation" refers to music/song/poem/eulogy, etc *Number 11: "attended" refers to attending without participation in the service



Official publication of The National Twenty and Four Honor Society of Women Legionnaires

> P.O Box 2004 Hines, IL 60141

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