

**FALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Commission Meeting
October 17, 2020**

We met at 10:00 at Department HQ. The following attended:

First Division Jan Lepinski - present

Second Division David Johnson Co-Chairman - present

Third Division Cheri Stanton Chairman – present

Fourth Division Terry Abdelnour – absent

Fifth Division Carole Sandusky – absent

Guests – Sue Johnson (Auxiliary Children & Youth Chairman), Commander Roy Weber, Sr. Vice
Commander Wayne Fischer and Shandi Green (Joy Wilson’s replacement).

- Winter Games – February 2-4, 2021 in Galena
- State Basketball – March 12-14, 2021
- State Games – June 11-13, 2021

1. Discussed the brochure and any changes. Request list of names, addresses, and phone numbers from all Legion Family Children and Youth members so we can get brochure updated.

2. At each District and Division meeting, each chairman needs to tell about the project for the “SEASON.”

FALL-Children’s Christmas program for Institutionalized Children. Take up a collection and send to Department. This is the third year we are giving 10.00 gifts-\$5.00 from the Legion and \$5.00 from the Auxiliary for this program.

WINTER-Have a rep from IMK (formerly OMK) come to district or division meetings to talk about the PILLOW CASE PROJECT. Show a case and ask for donations. We have given out to deploying soldiers and their families over 17,300 cases and our new members need to know we do this. The Auxiliary buys the cases and our Legion takes care of Ink, the press, and transfer papers. Any donations can be sent to Department marked for IMK in the memo.

This year we are handing out cocoa and food at Winter Games at Galena if they happen.

SPRING-Invite a Global Messenger to come to your meetings to tell about Special Olympics. **(THEY TRAIN FOR THIS.) BE SURE TO ASK THEM TO TELL ABOUT THE HOSPITALITY TENT, THEIR FAVORITE FOOD, AND THE POPSICLE’S.)**

SUMMER-It is your turn to tell about Special Olympics and what we do. We always need volunteers to set up and take down. Any food donations are welcome. We go through 18 gallons of sliced dill pickles,

20 gallons each of black and green olives, 1,800 dozen of regular cookies, 1,500 dozen of sugarless cooking, 22 gallons of animal crackers, 35 cases of chips and pretzels and over 120 watermelon to cut up.....just to name a few. It must come from somewhere. Maybe your post could send napkins, plates, or cups. Money is good too. We are one of a few states that has this program and the only way we can succeed is with your help. Illinois American Legion started serving the athletes at the first state games 52 years ago. This year we found the perfect spot to give out food. It had HOT running water, a large refrigeration unit, a place to wash dishes, AND bathrooms close by. We have jobs for people who can lift, sit and pass out food, keep the tea and water cups filled, wash dishes, wash tables, and if you can run a golf cart—you can take food out to the outer events of the athletes. What a fun two days. Our RIDERS are WONDERFUL to let the athletes sit on their bikes and get their picture taken. Our riders will be at the same spot as the food this year if we have State Games.

IF WE PLAN FOR EACH MEETING, YOU CAN ALWAYS HAVE A REPORT! Shandi USUALLY HAS SOMETHING in THE DEPARTMENT NEWS EACH MONTH, SO YOU MAY NEED TO SUBSCRIBE SO YOU WILL HAVE A COPY. USE THIS INFORMATION FOR ALL YEAR TO REFER TO.

Check the brochure for the full calendar of monthly suggestions for what your local posts can do for Children and Youth. All our programs are in the brochure as well as lists of all district and division chairman. We are here to help!

Discussion: Every year, the Child Welfare Section of Children and Youth have to vote on who gets what and how much. Many years ago, Garland Murphy gave the interest off of his mineral and oil rights in Texas to keep this program going. This adds up to \$700,000 each year.

**Adjourned: 11:45
Cheri Stanton, Co-Chairman**