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2 And, once again, to you, your Auxiliary body,  
3 our deepest, deepest apologies.  
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Apology accepted.  
5 I think he is very sincere.  
6 Is he sincere enough?  
7 (Applause.)  
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Let's  
9 give -- we are all hungry and ready for lunch. We have  
10 to reconvene at 1:30. Yeah.  
11 Okay. Don't sit down. He has not walked out  
12 of the room. Let us be gracious to him.  
13 (Processional.)  
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. We are now  
15 recessed for lunch, and you know where you are going.  
16 You know where your Department Presidents -- go with  
17 your Department Presidents.  
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:  
19 Madam President -- Madam President, very quickly, do you  
20 want me to state where they are going to be going?  
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Ladies,  
22 communication. Communication.  
23  
24 ANNOUNCEMENTS  
25 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Very  
26 quickly. Listen up, ladies.  
27 The PT Performers and Classy Penguins are going  
28 to meet in Room 104, which is the department office, as  
29 soon as we break.  
30 Margaret's Dream Catchers, Ruby's All Stars,  
31 Goldie's Golden Links, Betty's Bears, Geri's Cards, and  
32 Shelby's Actresses, lunch at the Ayres Boutique,  
33 Room 117. The Ayres shuttle is going to pick you up at  
34 the east door. You go out of this room, turn right, and  
35 then an immediate left by Room 107A exit is where the  
36 Ayres shuttle will pick you up.  
37 Bev's Stars and Madeline's Robots will meet for  
38 lunch at the north entrance of the convention center,  
39 near the buffet and bar.  
40 Virginia Gandy's Engineers, Judy Lloyd's  
41 Editors, Diane DeLashmit's Circus Act are meeting today  
42 in the convention center lobby.  
43 Linda's Racers, today, noon, by the tables in  
44 the hall by the exit doors and the lunch buffet.  
45 Norma's Birds of Paradise will meet in the  
46 Ayres Hotel, Room 3302.  
47 Linda's Workmen, Nancy's Patriots, Bonnie's  
48 Princesses, Sandy's Colonel's are meeting for lunch at  
49 the DoubleTree, Room 3356.  
50 Thank you.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Doris.  
2 We'll be back at 1:30.  
3 (Luncheon recess taken from  
4 12:15 p.m. to 1:40 p.m.)  
5

6 LUNCHEON RECESS  
7

8 PRESIDENT REYES: Ladies, can you please take  
9 your seats?

10 I would like to ask someone to take the stage.  
11 National Security. Poppy. AEF. We'll try to finish  
12 all of the reports this afternoon; so we don't want to  
13 waste time. Please stay in your seat.

14 This convention session is now reconvened. At  
15 this time we will resume the chairmen's reports, but  
16 before we go there, our Chaplain will take a second to  
17 read.  
18

19 A HERO'S HERO

20 CHAPLAIN ALCANTAR: When we had that homeless  
21 veteran here before, we took a break, and I just  
22 remembered something. And I have a little thing  
23 regarding -- regarding the homeless men.

24 A Hero's Hero:  
25 So many soldiers living on the street,  
26 Their spirits broken with defeat.  
27 What must they think when they look around  
28 Eyes passing by, staring at the ground?  
29 Does anger fill them when we turn away  
30 From the debts we owe that should be repaid?  
31 What if at that moment, just once, instead  
32 We saluted in honor, right hand to head?  
33 To let them know they are not ghosts,  
34 Thanking them for being braver than most.  
35 If everyone would show them grace,  
36 We just might find their pain erased.  
37 For all the heroes still fighting to live,  
38 And heroes like you continuing to give.  
39 If you see someone who is really lost,  
40 Please stop and remember what our freedom cost.

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.  
42 (Applause.)

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Now we have  
44 Alzora, please.  
45

46 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

47 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Okay. Thank you,  
48 Madam President.

49 I still have two awards that were not  
50 presented, and at this time -- this is for the largest

1 goal unit percentage awarded to Downey, Unit 290,  
2 Dolores King, President, and that goal that they made.

3 (Applause.)

4 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: And the last award  
5 that I have was the first goal district, which was  
6 awarded to District 24.

7 (Applause.)

8 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Madam President,  
9 I didn't get the opportunity to present our area support  
10 team for Membership. And at this time, if you are here,  
11 please stand toward the back -- in the back of me at  
12 this time.

13 The first one is Area 1. This Membership  
14 report -- this Membership team was -- Madam President  
15 assigned them to each area. And the first area was 1,  
16 which is Nancy Edwards. And I am so sad to report --  
17 and I did not know this -- but Nancy had been in a coma  
18 for two months. I got this information today. So far  
19 she is doing pretty good, but she has been very, very  
20 ill. I tried to talk to her. I didn't know what was  
21 going on. And, really, my heart goes out to her. And  
22 please mention -- the Chaplain and members, please pray  
23 for her, Nancy and her family.

24 Area 2, LuAnn Johnson. She is over here.  
25 District 26.

26 We have Danielle White. That's Area 3,  
27 Danielle. District 27.

28 Jean Hardcovy, District 22.

29 (Applause.)

30 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Cheryl Hathaway,  
31 District 21.

32 And Annette McKendry, District 16. That's your  
33 Membership area support team.

34 Now, Madam President, I would like to call our  
35 Secretary/Treasurer Doris Kilkenny to the podium.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You're in trouble.

37 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: I'm  
38 always in trouble.

39 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: She's in trouble?

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: She's always in  
41 trouble.

42 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Well, first of  
43 all, I did present an award to her, I'm quite sure.  
44 I really want to thank Doris for everything that she has  
45 helped me do. Membership is not an easy task. This is  
46 something no one can do by themselves, take all of the  
47 districts, all of the units, all of the support team,  
48 and, of course, it does take the Department to help you  
49 through this Membership transition because it is hard.  
50 And she did a fabulous job trying to get information to

1 me and to all of you.  
2 And that, Doris, I thank you so much.  
3 (Applause.)  
4 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Doris, at this  
5 time, will introduce the new charters, the unit  
6 charters.  
7  
8 NEW CHARTERS  
9 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:  
10 Madam President, with your permission, I would like for  
11 you to present the charters we have. We have received  
12 these back from National.  
13 We have a new charter, Number 181, Brea,  
14 District 29.  
15 (Applause.)  
16 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We  
17 have a unit that was chartered late in 2010, Unit 552,  
18 Pacific Beach.  
19 (Applause.)  
20 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: And  
21 Unit 201. What's the name? Dewitt C. Mitchell. And if  
22 you have representatives from the district, just stand  
23 at the end of the stage and Madam President will call  
24 you up.  
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Brea --  
26 Brea, Unit 181, District 29. Somebody from your  
27 district.  
28 (Applause.)  
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: San Diego, Pacific  
30 Beach, Unit 552, District 22.  
31 (Applause.)  
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: We have six.  
33 Okay. Lemon Grove, Dewitt C. Mitchell Post,  
34 Unit 201. This is District 20 -- 22.  
35 Later on I will take pictures with you; so be  
36 ready for the photo session.  
37 Big Bear Lake. Okay. Unit 584. This is  
38 a name change to Sergeant Major U.S.M.C.A.F., Rudy  
39 Woodward. Congratulations.  
40 (Applause.)  
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So we have six  
42 units in our department.  
43 (Applause.)  
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I hope that will  
45 be recognized at National.  
46 Are you done, Alzora --  
47 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Yes, ma'am.  
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: -- with your  
49 report?  
50 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN CARTER: Madam President,

1 that ends my Membership report.  
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Thank  
3 you.  
4 (Applause.)  
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So we have good  
6 membership.  
7 Now I would like to go on Poppy, Loretta Marsh.  
8 (Music played.)  
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: AEF Leadership,  
10 please be on stage. And Convention Commission, Beverly.

11  
12 POPPY REPORT

13 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Madam President, the  
14 convention committee on Poppy met on June 23rd, 2011, in  
15 Room 107B of the Ontario Convention Center, Ontario,  
16 California.  
17 The statistical report of this chairman appears  
18 on Page 18 of the Book of Reports.  
19 Annette McKendry of District 16 was appointed  
20 Secretary.  
21 Nancy Niles of District 24 offered prayer.  
22 And Geri Fitzpatrick of District 4 was  
23 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.  
24 A total of 21 district delegates answered roll  
25 call. There were 13 visitors present.  
26 The Poppy meeting was opened with prayer, and  
27 the Pledge to the flag was recited.  
28 Awards and citations were presented.  
29 Discussion pursued and recommendations were  
30 presented and will be passed on to the successive Poppy  
31 Chairman and Department President.  
32 The following code changes were approved by  
33 committee. No groaning now.  
34 The first was -- Department Code Section 6 now  
35 reads:  
36 The week preceding the third Saturday in May,  
37 which is Sunday through Saturday, shall be declared  
38 Poppy Week and shall be scheduled -- shall be the  
39 scheduled time for the annual poppy solicitation. Units  
40 wishing to offer poppies, other than the scheduled week,  
41 must write and receive permission from the Department  
42 President. The deadline date for requests -- for  
43 permission to change Poppy Week is April 1st.  
44 The proposed change from the committee would  
45 read -- for -- to clear up confusion on the third  
46 Saturday it would instead read:  
47 The second full week of May, Sunday through  
48 Saturday, shall be declared Poppy Week and shall be the  
49 scheduled time for the annual poppy solicitation. Units  
50 wishing to offer poppies other than the scheduled week

1 must write and receive permission from the Department  
2 President. The deadline date for requests for  
3 permission to change Poppy Week is April 1st.  
4 By direction of the Poppy committee,  
5 Madam President, I move for the adoption of this code  
6 change.  
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
8 to adopt the presented proposed change. The change is  
9 changing the third week -- third week to the second  
10 week.  
11 Any discussion?  
12 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
13 Madam President -- Madam President?  
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes.  
15 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
16 Linda Diebel, 19th District, Finance Chairman.  
17 I just have a point of clarification. Did they  
18 not vote at National Convention last year that poppy  
19 will now be Poppy Month, not Poppy Week? So shouldn't  
20 they amend that Code to read the entire month of May?  
21 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: I was not made aware of  
22 this change.  
23 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Madam  
24 Department President, Ruby Kapsalis.  
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Ruby.  
26 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: We have  
27 always had -- May has always been Poppy Month for the  
28 Department of California. We have always distributed  
29 the poppies in one week. There is no way you can  
30 distribute poppies the entire month and get your report  
31 to national by June 1st. That's why it was moved up to  
32 the second week of May.  
33 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
34 Okay. Thank you.  
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.  
36 Any more discussion?  
37 (No response.)  
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
39 let's vote.  
40 Those in favor say aye.  
41 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
43 (No response.)  
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
45 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you.  
46 Section 14, and this was rewritten to -- for  
47 clarity. It is not a change. This was written for  
48 clarity and to conform with other codes. It now reads:  
49 Unit donations to the welfare funds of  
50 10 percent of the poppy proceeds shall be used for



1 Children & Youth, Education, Past Presidents Parley  
2 Nursing Scholarship, and Veterans Affairs &  
3 Rehabilitation budgets. The balance from the previous  
4 year may be used, and the proposed budget shall clearly  
5 reflect the previous year's balance.

6 The committee's proposed change:  
7 Units shall send 10 percent of the amount  
8 earned from their poppy distribution, less costs of the  
9 poppies, to the department office. The department  
10 office shall total the amount of income received from  
11 all units and shall take 10 percent of that amount and  
12 distribute funds equally amongst Children & Youth,  
13 Education, Past Presidents Parley Nursing Scholarship,  
14 and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation budgets, except  
15 when a budget deficit exists in any of these accounts.  
16 When a deficit exists, the interest income and  
17 10 percent of net receipts shall be distributed to the  
18 deficit accounts. The remaining balance, after  
19 10 percent is deducted, shall be credited to the poppy  
20 account.

21 By the direction of the Poppy committee,  
22 Madam President, I move for the adoption of the proposed  
23 change.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
25 to adopt the proposed change presented.

26 Any discussion?  
27 (No response.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
29 those in favor say aye.

30 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
32 (No response.)

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.

34 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you.

35 Under Poppy Production, Section 8 now reads:

36 A year-round poppy production is authorized at  
37 the California Veterans Homes at Yountville and  
38 Chula Vista, as labels are available, to give permanent  
39 residents the opportunity to participate in the  
40 therapeutic and incentive work program without the  
41 pressures of a short-term production.

42 We have only added, because last year it was  
43 added to the list, the WAVE clinic; that's the only  
44 change. So the new Section 8 would read:

45 A year-round poppy production is authorized at  
46 the California Veterans Homes at Yountville,  
47 Chula Vista, and WAVE Clinic San Diego, as labels are  
48 available, to give permanent residents the opportunity  
49 to participate in the therapeutic and incentive work  
50 program without the pressures of a short-term

1 production.  
2 By direction of the committee, I move the  
3 adoption of the proposed change.  
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
5 to adopt the change -- proposed change to Section  
6 Number 8.  
7 Any discussion?  
8 Recognizing Department Parliamentarian,  
9 District 25.  
10 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: I just  
11 read it now; so I'm not sure it really sunk in. Reading  
12 it, the year-round poppy production authorizes the  
13 Yountville Veterans Homes at Yountville, Chula Vista,  
14 and WAVE Clinic San Diego. Well, that is not a veterans  
15 home at WAVE Clinic. To give permanent residents --  
16 there is not permanent residents there. I understand  
17 the WAVE Clinic doing it, but they do not have permanent  
18 residents at the WAVE Clinic.  
19 Am I reading --  
20 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
21 Uh-huh. That's how I read it.  
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Any other  
23 discussion?  
24 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:  
25 Madam President, Anita Biggs, Children & Youth Chairman,  
26 District 23.  
27 I believe that the way that it is worded, as  
28 Diane stated, is they would have to give permanent  
29 residents after Yountville, because Chula Vista --  
30 because Chula Vista and WAVE Clinic are not permanent  
31 residents.  
32 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
33 Yes, they are. Chula Vista is permanent residents.  
34 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:  
35 I meant the WAVE Clinic is not; so maybe they need to  
36 just word it -- word it differently so that it includes  
37 the WAVE Clinic.  
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.  
39 Any more discussion?  
40 Recognizing Susie Tozier, Department of  
41 Finance.  
42 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
43 TOZIER: Susie Tozier, District 22.  
44 We could remove the word "permanent residents"  
45 and put in there "give the opportunity to veterans to  
46 participate in therapeutic and incentive programs" to  
47 cover those.  
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That should be  
49 amended.  
50 But yeah. Okay. There is a proposal to make

1 an amendment to remove "to give permanent residents."  
2 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Susie,  
3 move to amend.  
4 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
5 TOZIER: I move to amend this motion to delete "to give  
6 permanent residents" and change that to say "to give  
7 veterans the opportunity to participate in therapeutic  
8 and incentive work."  
9 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Right.  
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. The  
11 proposed amendment is to remove "to give permanent  
12 residents" but to continue "to give opportunity to  
13 veterans to participate," et cetera; so, actually, the  
14 amendment is only to change "permanent veterans" to  
15 "opportunity for veterans."  
16 Any discussion?  
17 (No response.)  
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
19 those in favor of the amendment to the motion please say  
20 aye.  
21 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed, no?  
23 (No response.)  
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So please restate  
25 your motion with the amendment.  
26 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you.  
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: The amended  
28 motion.  
29 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you.  
30 A year-round poppy production is authorized  
31 at the California Veterans Homes at Yountville,  
32 Chula Vista, and WAVE Clinic San Diego, as they are  
33 available, to give veterans the opportunity to  
34 participate in the therapeutic and incentive work  
35 programs without the pressures of a short-term  
36 production.  
37 I move for the adoption of this code change.  
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It has been  
39 moved to adopt the amended motion.  
40 Any more discussion?  
41 (No response.)  
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
43 please vote. Those in favor say aye.  
44 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
46 (No response.)  
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
48 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you.  
49 May I proceed with my supplemental,  
50 Madam President?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.  
2 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Wow. What a view.  
3 Picture it. The beautiful blood-red four-petal poppy  
4 blossoming all across the state of California. It's  
5 seen adorning the lapels, buttonholes, and even purse  
6 handles of people on the street. Vases of them are seen  
7 in stores and businesses with an accompanying jar for  
8 welcome donations. Over 1900 volunteers from  
9 American Legion Auxiliary units are at city council  
10 meetings, rotary clubs, Legion posts, business meetings,  
11 beauty shops, classrooms, Boys and Girls Clubs, 4-H  
12 groups, Boy and Girl Scout meetings, memorial services,  
13 Red Hat groups, and church groups to proudly present  
14 this beautiful flower and tell all they meet the history  
15 and meaning of the veteran poppy.  
16 Unit 807 attended golf tournaments and  
17 Little League games to hand them out. They were placed  
18 with food being given out at the local food banks.  
19 Unit 314 had members write a dedication message  
20 to a loved one on a patriotic paper plate decorated with  
21 poppies, which were then hung on the wall of the post  
22 canteen.  
23 The Juniors in one unit put on a stage play  
24 entitled, "Who Killed Ms. Poppy?" which was attended by  
25 the city council and the local fire and police  
26 department. I would like to read that script.  
27 The petals have been seen adorning the branches  
28 of Christmas trees, tied to candy canes as favors,  
29 brightening up trays in convalescent homes and  
30 hospitals, as napkin rings, decorating dining tables and  
31 beautifying in the form of hair pieces and corsages.  
32 And it is not hard to picture the halls of hospitals and  
33 clinics showing off wreaths of poppies. The poppy  
34 wreath is present at veteran memorials throughout the  
35 entire state.  
36 Fourteen city councils presented proclamations  
37 declaring an official Poppy Week for their cities.  
38 Fifteen major newspapers did in-depth articles about the  
39 history and significance of the poppy. Two marquees  
40 have been seen promoting Poppy Week.  
41 Four facilities -- Chula Vista Veterans Home,  
42 San Diego VAMC OMC, Long Beach Healthcare System, and  
43 Yountville Veterans Home -- contracted to make  
44 385,000 poppies for the 2010-2011 poppy distribution  
45 under the direction of our dedicated poppy production  
46 managers, Lois Cornish, Trish Ladre, and Geri  
47 Fitzpatrick. Units purchased 356,709 of them to  
48 distribute and use in their units. Yes, the units of  
49 the Department of California have reported sowing their  
50 poppies literally; but, sadly, this is a 4 percent

1 overall decrease from last year's purchases, even though  
2 71 units increased their orders while 65 units decreased  
3 theirs.

4 Department President Pilar Reyes chose  
5 M.U.S.I.C., Membership United in Service, Ideals, and  
6 Commitment, as her theme; so as a tribute to her I wrote  
7 a "Poppy Song" the tune of "The Yellow Rose of Texas" to  
8 be presented to her and encouraged anyone who wished to  
9 participate to write a verse to be added to it. Only  
10 Unit 751, District 5, chose to do so, but we are happy  
11 to include that verse in our song. Due to time  
12 constraints we are not going to sing that song; so you  
13 can use it in your meeting and see that third verse that  
14 was -- that was written.

15 As we look back on this colorful picture, we  
16 are looking forward to next year and passing on the  
17 torch of dedication and commitment to the next chairmen  
18 to continue sowing the seeds for a bountiful harvest of  
19 our beloved poppy.

20 All certificates of award were presented in  
21 committee and posted except the two first place awards  
22 that, with your permission, Madam President, I would  
23 like to present at this time.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

25 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: In committee we gave  
26 a certificate to the unit that had the largest poppy  
27 order increase. They increased their order this year by  
28 6,000 poppies. That order was unit -- or that unit was  
29 Unit 197, District 2, Linda Field, Chairman.

30 (Applause.)

31 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: We also gave a first  
32 place award to the district that got their --  
33 100 percent of their poppies ordered, and the first one  
34 that got 100 percent of their poppies orders to the  
35 Department -- and that district was District 14,  
36 Patty Sharp, Chairman.

37 (Applause.)

38 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: The poppy poster awards  
39 for Class I was Jordyn Paine, Unit 277, District 29.

40 (Applause.)

41 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Class II,  
42 Valentine Sanford, Unit 277, District 29.

43 (Applause.)

44 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Class III, Hannah Janji,  
45 Unit 716, District 29.

46 (Applause.)

47 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Class V, Min-Ji Yi,  
48 Unit 43, District 24.

49 (Applause.)

50 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: And Class VI was Josh

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1 Lorenz Arguelles, Unit 43, District 24.  
2 (Applause.)  
3 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: And they were lovely  
4 posters. You can see a couple of them out.  
5 And first place poppy display -- I'll announce  
6 that. They were given in committee. First place went  
7 to Betty Kay, Unit 595, District 21.  
8 (Applause.)  
9 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: And for free form, first  
10 place was Lucy Perez, Unit 229, District 25.  
11 (Applause.)  
12 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: First place unit  
13 supplemental goes to Unit 197, District 2, Linda Field,  
14 Chairman.  
15 (Applause.)  
16 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: First place district  
17 supplemental goes to Elizabeth Doidge, District 28.  
18 (Applause.)  
19 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Congratulations, ladies,  
20 and thank you for your hard work.  
21 Madam President Pilar, I thank you so much for  
22 the opportunity to serve you and the American Legion  
23 Auxiliary with this chairmanship.  
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are welcome.  
25 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: And it has been an honor  
26 to serve on your team.  
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you for the  
28 good job.  
29 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: This concludes my  
30 report.  
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Before you leave  
32 the stage, I would like to recognize an award of  
33 someone. This is -- looks like a poppy. This was done  
34 by Michelle Banks. She made all the banners to promote  
35 poppy and also --  
36 (Applause.)  
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: -- the music for  
38 the "Star Spangled Banner."  
39 So thank you very much. Give her a big hand.  
40 (Applause.)  
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: And thank you very  
42 much for your outstanding job.  
43 POPPY CHAIRMAN MARSH: Thank you,  
44 Madam President.  
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So I would like to  
46 call on Lucille Taylor to be here on this stage.  
47 VA HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: Madam  
48 President, Lois Cornish, District 22.  
49 I would like to remind everyone that last year  
50 we had two poppy production managers, and one of them

1 was Phyllis Holmberg. And if you have ever made  
2 poppies, you know it is a rather taxing job. So I would  
3 like to recognize Phyllis and have her put into the  
4 records, please.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Phyllis.  
6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: She is another  
8 poppy production manager.

9 All right. The next report is National  
10 Security.

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12

NATIONAL SECURITY REPORT

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NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DuVALL:  
Madam Department President, the convention committee on  
National Security met on June 23rd, 2011, in Room 107C  
of the Ontario Convention Center, Ontario, California,  
at 9:15.

The statistical report of this chairman appears  
on -- I didn't write it on my notes. I believe it is on  
Page 17 -- thank you -- of the Book of Reports.

Linda Hayes, District 20, was appointed  
Secretary.

Mary Chaba, District 18, offered prayer.

And Diana Levas, District 19, was appointed  
Sergeant-at-Arms.

A total of 17 district delegates answered roll  
call. There were three visitors present.

The committee agreed on the following report.

Resolution Number 1 was read and approved.

Madam Department President, I move the  
acceptance of this resolution.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
to accept this resolution.

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: The resolution.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yeah. I was  
looking for the resolution.

DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
It's not in here.

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: I have the  
resolution.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Read the first  
one.

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Resolution 1:

Whereas, the department is attempting to reduce  
their budget; and

Whereas, traditionally 500 to \$1,000 has been  
budgeted for the Department Legislative to attend the  
American Legion Auxiliary Awareness Assembly in  
Washington D.C.; and

Whereas, the National Executive Committeewoman

1 is called to attend the NEC meeting, which is held in  
2 conjunction with the Awareness Assembly, and the  
3 National organization pays for transportation to and  
4 from Washington D.C., plus one night's lodging; and  
5       Whereas, there is a proposed Constitution and  
6 Bylaws change that the National Executive Committeewoman  
7 appointed the Legislative chairmanship instead of  
8 National Security in the past; and  
9       Therefore, be it resolved that funds for the  
10 National Security Chairman shall no longer be budgeted  
11 for her attendance at the Awareness Assembly; and  
12       Be it further resolved that the National  
13 Security Code 2 reads:  
14       The Department National Security Chairman shall  
15 be privileged to attend the American Legion Auxiliary  
16 Awareness Assembly. She shall be reimbursed \$150 for  
17 one night's accommodations -- be deleted in its  
18 entirety; and,  
19       Be it further resolved that Legislative Code 2,  
20 which reads:  
21       The department chairman may attend the  
22 Awareness Assembly sponsored by the National  
23 organization if approved by the Department President,  
24 and if funds are available and adopted at the annual  
25 budget.  
26       Be changed to read:  
27       If funds are available in the annual budget and  
28 replaced with funds not to exceed \$125 per diem for four  
29 days, to be collected annually, to help defray the costs  
30 of attending the Awareness Assembly.  
31       By direction of the convention committee,  
32 I move the acceptance of this resolution.  
33       DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It is moved  
34 to adopt the proposed change.  
35       CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: That is the  
36 resolution that passed in the committee.  
37       DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has passed the  
38 committee.  
39       Madam Parliamentarian.  
40       DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Diane  
41 DeLashmit, Department Parliamentarian.  
42       Yesterday this was the same resolution that  
43 came under Legislation, and we changed the -- the amount  
44 from four days to three days; so we need to amend this  
45 as well. We can't approve it the way that it is worded;  
46 so I amend it to be three days instead of four.  
47       AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second it.  
48       DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Diane.  
49       Okay. You need -- it has been moved to add the  
50 amendment -- to amend the resolution for today to change



1 four to three days. That was approved yesterday, but it  
2 has to be in this code.  
3 Any discussion?  
4 (No response.)  
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
6 those in favor say aye.  
7 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
9 (No response.)  
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It is adopted.  
11 Yeah.  
12 Now we have to vote on the amended resolution.  
13 Any discussion?  
14 (No response.)  
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right. No  
16 discussion.  
17 We will vote on the resolution. Those in favor  
18 say aye.  
19 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
21 (No response.)  
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
23 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: The National  
24 Security Code was read, and the following changes were  
25 made.  
26 National Security Code Number 2 now reads:  
27 The national -- excuse me.  
28 The Department National Security Chairman shall  
29 be privileged to attend the American Legion Auxiliary  
30 Awareness Assembly. She shall be reimbursed \$150 for  
31 one night's accommodations.  
32 The proposed change would be to delete this  
33 code in its entirety.  
34 Madam Department President, by direction of the  
35 convention committee I move the adoption of this code  
36 change.  
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
38 to adopt to delete the whole code in its entirety.  
39 Any discussion?  
40 (No response.)  
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say  
42 aye.  
43 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
45 (No response.)  
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
47 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Thank you.  
48 There were no recommendations.  
49 100 percent reporting certificates were  
50 presented to 16 districts. The second and third place

1 awards were presented in committee with the list  
2 included for the districts. The list is also posted in  
3 the department convention office and attached to this  
4 report.

5 Question and answer and discussion followed.  
6 With no further business, the meeting adjourned  
7 at 9:55.

8 This completes the report of the National  
9 Security Committee, and I move its acceptance.

10 May I continue with my supplemental?

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

12 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Thank you.

13 It is hard to believe that units report no  
14 activity in the National Security Program. We, as an  
15 organization, can pause and reflect on everyday  
16 activities and know that someone somewhere has provided  
17 love and support to a veteran, active duty military, or  
18 their families. The National Security Program is one  
19 that we work continuously, but our efforts sometimes are  
20 not reported or we are not sure where to report all the  
21 good things we are doing.

22 The units of the Department of California can  
23 be part of their accomplishments and their dedication to  
24 our programs and activities serving our military,  
25 veterans, their children, and promoting community events  
26 that assist our military and veterans.

27 Although not included as an emphasis, our units  
28 continued to clip coupons for our military on foreign  
29 soil -- by January two units alone reported 1,097,978  
30 coupons valued at \$14,925.33. At the end of the year  
31 nine units reported an additional 900,488 coupons, total  
32 value over \$1,834,236, which I am sure is just the tip  
33 of the iceberg of the boxes being sent overseas. For  
34 the past four years, San Dieguito, Unit 416,  
35 District 22, continues to mail 10,000 coupons per month  
36 to 12 overseas bases and has received thank you letters  
37 from nine of those bases.

38 (Applause.)

39 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Tehachapi,  
40 Unit 21, District 15, continues their tradition during  
41 the holidays by partnering with the post, the Ladies  
42 Auxiliary of the VFW, and the community to send  
43 a Christmas tree and ornaments, plus Chanukah menorah  
44 and candles in their care packages for troops.

45 Perris, Unit 595, District 21, have Junior ROTC  
46 groups at the California Military Institute and Perris  
47 High School that are supported each year with awards in  
48 May and with trophies for military excellence for  
49 entrants in Veterans Day and Christmas parades.

50 Charter Cove Unit 755, District 18, partnered

1 with the Blue Star Mothers in helping organize efforts  
2 of local Marine reserve units with fundraising efforts  
3 to raise money to mail care packages overseas by holding  
4 two four-hour car washes that raised \$1,050.

5 (Applause.)

6 NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DuVALL:  
7 Chartered in October 2010, San Anselmo, Unit 179,  
8 District 5, reported three projects:

9 Operation Santa Claus -- in November, for  
10 a donation of \$20 members of the public could buy a  
11 holiday stocking filled with treats with a personal gift  
12 tag message for troops deployed in OEF or IOF. A total  
13 of 130 stockings were mailed.

14 Operation Hugs from Home -- in March, for  
15 a donation of \$20, members of the public could buy  
16 a colorful gift bag filled with either food snacks or  
17 toiletry items with a personal gift tag message to be  
18 included in a care package. A total of 40 hugs from  
19 home were sent in their most recent shipment.

20 Cooling Scarves -- the unit members held sewing  
21 parties to make cooling scarves to be included in their  
22 care packages. To date, 340 scarves have been made.

23 Can you imagine what this unit is going to  
24 report next year?

25 (Applause.)

26 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: The district  
27 receiving first place for the best district overall  
28 programs in National Security reported activities in all  
29 15 areas of emphasis.

30 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yay.

31 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Their top two  
32 programs were Operation Home Front, where the units  
33 aided 300 veterans, military, and their families and the  
34 USO, who received \$2,900 in contributions. It was  
35 reported four of their 16 units spent \$4,235 and touched  
36 300 in the military with care packages during National  
37 Military Appreciation Month. Congratulations goes to  
38 District 29.

39 (Applause.)

40 NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DuVALL:  
41 The unit receiving first place for the best overall  
42 program in National Security showed dedication to this  
43 program that is awe inspiring. They worked every area  
44 of the plan of action. This unit started the year  
45 cohosting a farewell barbecue for their adopted brigade  
46 deploying on their third mission to Afghanistan, then  
47 quickly responded to the request for Family Readiness  
48 Group partner to babysit another brigade's kids while  
49 they attended predeployment briefings.

50 Holidays brought their Juniors together with

1 local Girl Scout troops making Halloween, Thanksgiving,  
2 and Christmas cards for the deployed troops and place  
3 mats and table decorations for holiday meals for the  
4 Joint Forces Training Base.

5 Another partnership with their local Girl Scout  
6 troops sent comfort items, cards, and letters to over  
7 600 troops, followed by another set of packages being  
8 sent during National Military Appreciation Month under  
9 the Operation Comfort Warriors program. This unit has  
10 mailed seven pounds of coupons, spent 13 hours serving  
11 150 troops in a Yellow Ribbon reintegration event,  
12 assisted in another Family Readiness Group project  
13 annual awards ceremony and Christmas party. They have  
14 donated over 100 hours helping families under the Family  
15 Support program with car repairs, home maintenance, and  
16 a baby shower for wives of deployed troops. Unit  
17 members host a monthly Gold Star/Blue Star luncheon and  
18 solemnly presented a gold star banner and pin to one of  
19 their own who lost her son in Iraq.

20 Quoting the unit chairman, "We pause to reflect  
21 on the wonderful and productive year we have had. We  
22 feel confident that we have upheld the principles of the  
23 American Legion Auxiliary and demonstrated our patriotic  
24 and moral support of our military and their mission, as  
25 well as support their families by providing activities,  
26 outreach, information, and encouragement."

27 And, that, you have.

28 Congratulations to Los Alamitos, Unit 17,  
29 Tamara Bell, Chairman.

30 (Applause.)

31 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN DuVALL: Madam Department  
32 President, this concludes my report, and I thank you for  
33 the appointment.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.

35 (Applause.)

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: And thank you for  
37 the outstanding job. Thanks very much.

38 Before I proceed, I would like to address Doris  
39 to make some information report. I cannot say the word.  
40 Music allowance. All right? You want to hear the  
41 musical notes? It will sound good.

42

43

#### DONATIONS

44 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Okay.  
45 Madam President, I am -- I have been asked by you to  
46 give an updated report from the donations that were  
47 taken by the VA&R Chairman Terry Mikesell from the floor  
48 today, and a total of \$817.25 was donated to your  
49 project.

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Thank

1 you. Thank you, Terry. Thank you.  
2 (Applause.)  
3 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:  
4 Madam President, you also have a couple more donation  
5 presentations to be made today. At your request I will  
6 ask for them.  
7 We have District 22 and District 29 that have  
8 some monetary donations for you.  
9 You want them now or later?  
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No. I don't have  
11 it. The one I gave you is from District 6. District 6,  
12 Unit 521, \$1,000.  
13 (Applause.)  
14 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:  
15 Unit 521, District 6.  
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you,  
17 District 6.  
18 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:  
19 Districts 22 and 29, would you like to be presented with  
20 the money now?  
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All your money.  
22 Thank you.  
23 (Applause.)  
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Doris.  
25 We have approximated some lateness update of  
26 how much we have after they give their report. And Gigi  
27 is going to have a donation from Area 5.  
28 MS. MANNO: Actually, this is from the Fifth  
29 Area, Districts 21, 22, 25, 29, and 30.  
30 (Applause.)  
31 MS. MANNO: It is -- it is our membership  
32 program. This program was developed and recognized and  
33 organized by Nancy Hansen, past -- I think --  
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Past Education  
35 Chairman.  
36 MS. MANNO: And Past Department President  
37 Bev Sparks.  
38 Will you stand?  
39 (Applause.)  
40 MS. MANNO: This is all the membership, ladies.  
41 We work together. We work together hard. And if we  
42 don't have membership, we don't have people.  
43 The winner of the Fifth Area was District 29.  
44 (Applause.)  
45 29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Between  
46 all the raffles from all the meetings, \$465.  
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.  
48 (Applause.)  
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Wow. Now we have  
50 lots of money.

1                   29TH DISTRICT PRESIDENT KARANICKOLAS: Okay.  
2                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Please give your  
3 name and your chairmanship when you give your report.

4  
5                   AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND REPORT  
6                   AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
7 Lucille Taylor, Department of California Auxiliary  
8 Emergency Fund Chairman.

9                   The convention committee on Auxiliary Emergency  
10 Fund met on June 23rd, 2011, in Room 107B at the Ontario  
11 Convention Center.

12                   The statistical report of this chairman appears  
13 on Page 12 of the Book of Reports.

14                   Kathy Harris-Richardson, District 23, was  
15 appointed Secretary.

16                   Chris DeLaRosa, District 28, offered prayer.

17                   Tammy Sollazzo, District 19, was appointed  
18 Sergeant-at-Arms.

19                   A total of 19 district delegates answered roll  
20 call. There were seven visitors present.

21                   The committee agreed upon the following.

22                   The code was read.

23                   A total of 27 districts were awarded  
24 100 percent reporting certificates.

25                   Certificates for second and third place annual  
26 reports were handed out to the units and districts, and  
27 the list is posted in the department office.

28                   The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

29                   This concludes the committee report for the  
30 Emergency Fund.

31                   Madam President, may I proceed with my  
32 supplemental report?

33                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

34                   AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: The  
35 Fiddlers successfully administered and supported the  
36 goals of the AEF program. They stressed the importance  
37 of increasing donations. As a result, units held  
38 fundraisers and passed piggy banks or baskets at unit  
39 meetings to collect donations. The Fiddlers reported  
40 donations totaling \$7,651.93.

41                   Many units were ready to help their fellow  
42 members when they were -- when they saw the need arise.  
43 Several units raised funds to help each other. One unit  
44 raised \$650 by raffling off a basket at their annual  
45 Valentine's Day dance. They raised enough to help two  
46 members who requested funds, giving one \$500 and the  
47 other \$200.

48                   There were 13 applications submitted for  
49 emergency assistance, for a total of \$18,355.06.

50                   By working together, we can assure that there

1 will always be funds available when a fellow member is  
2 in need.  
3 Let us remember a commitment to each other as  
4 we are women helping women.  
5 Madam President, may I proceed with my first  
6 place Auxiliary awards?  
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.  
8 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
9 District supplementary report, first place,  
10 Maria Hernandez, District 29.  
11 (Applause.)  
12 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: Unit  
13 supplemental report, first place, Chula Vista, Unit 434.  
14 (Applause.)  
15 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
16 First place for the highest donation by district,  
17 District 25, \$937.24.  
18 (Applause.)  
19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That is  
20 District 29. You misread.  
21 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: I am  
22 sorry. It is 25.  
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, this is wrong.  
24 Sorry.  
25 Madam President, this concludes my report.  
26 Thank you.  
27 Just a minute. We have to make  
28 a clarification.  
29 District 25 is correct, except the ones --  
30 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
31 I made a typo error on the card. It is 25.  
32 (Applause.)  
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: And it is \$977.  
34 (Applause.)  
35 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
36 Madam President, this concludes my report.  
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.  
38 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
39 I would like to thank you for my appointment.  
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are welcome.  
41 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR: May  
42 I approach your station?  
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.  
44 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
45 Thank you.  
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right. May  
47 I call on Beverly Sparks. Beverly is the chairman  
48 from -- the Convention Commission Chairman from  
49 District 25.  
50

1                   CONVENTION COMMISSION REPORT  
2                   CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: I have  
3 no code change. I have no resolutions. I have no  
4 presentations.

5                   DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yay.  
6                   (Applause.)

7                   CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: I have  
8 nothing.

9                   But it might be best to start my report by  
10 telling you just what a Convention Commission committee  
11 tries to accomplish. Most of the commission activities  
12 occur when we attend the American Legion convention  
13 committee meetings and our department conventions. For  
14 the most part, we are there to listen to what has been  
15 decided for convention site for the future years.

16                   Due to the fact that there have not been any  
17 tours of approved convention sites for several years --  
18 the contracts have been secured by the convention city  
19 corporations -- our Commission committee had the task of  
20 joining the Legion commission and toured the convention  
21 sites of Redding, Santa Clara, and Palm Springs.

22                   I want to thank Terry Mikesell, Department VA&R  
23 Chairman, and Sandy Jacob, Past Department President,  
24 for helping this commission by attending the northern  
25 tours. The southern tour was attended by me and  
26 Linda Capels, Convention commission two-year member.

27                   The following is information on the tours.

28                   Redding for 2012. Nothing new to report  
29 regarding this convention site. We will be housed at  
30 the Holiday Inn, and the Auxiliary convention will be  
31 held at their convention center. All meetings and other  
32 events will be held there. The Legion headquarters will  
33 be at the Red Lion, and their activities will be held at  
34 the Redding Convention Center. At this time no local  
35 transportation between the hotel to the convention  
36 center is provided. The Legion Convention City  
37 Corporation is looking into this.

38                   Palm Springs, 2013. The sites for this  
39 convention were selected by the Convention City  
40 Corporation. The Riviera Hotel and Convention Center  
41 was to house both the Legion and the Auxiliary for their  
42 conventions; however, when touring the Riviera, it was  
43 found that the hall for the Auxiliary convention was too  
44 small to accommodate our delegates, and there were not  
45 enough available meeting rooms.

46                   The only option open to us, as contracts had  
47 already been signed by the Convention City Corporation,  
48 was to tour the secondary location for the Auxiliary  
49 convention, the Doral Desert Princess Resort. The two  
50 hotels are about two miles apart.



1           The hotel is perfect for the Auxiliary, with  
2 adequate convention space, and all the meeting rooms are  
3 inside. There is a full service dining room, cocktail  
4 lounges, beautiful pool, spa, and golf course.  
5 Hospitality suites are available, with large verandas  
6 and balconies. And guest rooms are spacious, and each  
7 have balconies. Shuttles will be provided between the  
8 Riviera and the Doral Resort. There is also free  
9 shuttle service between Palm Springs Airport and the  
10 hotel.

11           Santa Clara, 2014. The Hyatt Regency Hotel is  
12 connected to the convention headquarters for both the  
13 Legion and the Auxiliary. Free shuttle service will be  
14 provided within a five-mile radius of the hotel.

15           During our meetings and tour -- excuse me --  
16 and tour, each Legion Convention Commission member and  
17 the hotel sales and marketing personnel were given  
18 a copy of the Auxiliary convention requirements. These  
19 were addressed when the current Department President --  
20 got to get to my other page -- makes her tour and signs  
21 our agreement with the Convention City Corporation and  
22 the hotel.

23           Perhaps in the future there will be a permanent  
24 Convention Commission committee for both the Legion and  
25 the Auxiliary. It will make it so much easier and  
26 better organized than to keep changing the key players  
27 with each Convention City Corporation, Legion, and  
28 Auxiliary Commission committee members.

29           Again, thanks to Terry and Sandy for touring  
30 our sites in Redding and Santa Clara.

31           And thank you, President Pilar, for the  
32 exciting commission chairman appointment for this year.

33           The committee members for this year are  
34 Linda Capels, two-year member; and Sue Hooker, one-year  
35 member. Thank you both for your support.

36           I have a little PS on my report, Madam  
37 President. Linda Capels and myself visited the Legion  
38 Convention commission meeting yesterday, and we were  
39 really rewarded by going there. They recognized us.  
40 They also let us vote on the sites for 2015, and also  
41 made it clear that the Auxiliary will now become  
42 involved before the sites or the contracts are selected  
43 in future use.

44           (Applause.)

45           DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Great. Great.

46           DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
47 It's about time.

48           CONVENTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SPARKS: And  
49 I have to commend their Convention Commission committee  
50 because they heard everything that we complained about,

1 and they are even sympathetic. But, there again, their  
2 commission is new, and it is hard because there are so  
3 many details to be involved when you -- when you do the  
4 contracts and select the sites.

5 So we did vote on the sites for 2015.  
6 Riverside made a great presentation, Ontario made  
7 a presentation, and it was voted by their commission and  
8 us to do Ontario again in 2015. I know. I wish them  
9 luck.

10 Thank you, Madam President. It's been great.  
11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you very  
13 much. I thank you.

14 Okay. Anita Biggs, Chairman -- Children &  
15 Youth Chairman from District 23.

16 (Music played.)  
17

18 CHILDREN & YOUTH REPORT

19 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: You  
20 found my song. You go, Madam Musician. Power of love.

21 My name is Anita Biggs, Children & Youth  
22 Chairman for the Department of California.

23 Good afternoon, ladies.

24 ALL PRESENT: Good afternoon.

25 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:  
26 Madam President, let me start with the preconvention  
27 committee meeting.

28 The convention committee on Children & Youth  
29 met on June 23rd, 2001, in Room 107A of the Ontario  
30 Convention Center, Ontario, California.

31 The statistical report of this chairman appears  
32 on Page 13 of the Book of Reports.

33 Past Department President LuAnn Capazzi from  
34 District 27 was appointed Secretary.

35 Ann Marie Brown of District 22 offered prayer.  
36 I don't see anybody up here. Did you get your notes?  
37 Thank you.

38 Okay. And Diane Livas of District 19 was  
39 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.

40 A total of 23 district delegates answered roll  
41 call, and there were 11 visitors present.

42 The committee agreed upon the following report.

43 The code was read, and there were no changes to  
44 the code; however, it will be referred to the incoming  
45 chairman to verify whether Code 4 should be changed due  
46 to the new consolidated report form. And I found out  
47 from the National Children & Youth Chairman -- I just  
48 found out that that will be changed, and I will discuss  
49 that with the incoming chairman.

50 There were no resolutions; however, the

1 proposed change to the Finance Code Number 5 was read.  
2 Since it will affect Children & Youth budget, this will  
3 be referred to the incoming chairman as well if there is  
4 any type of need. At this time there is not.

5 There were no recommendations.

6 All categorized first place awards, along with  
7 second and third place supplemental awards were  
8 presented.

9 We have a Legionnaire with us, and I am very  
10 happy to see him. And his name is Don McIntosh. He is  
11 the Children & Youth Chairman from the 29th District.  
12 And he just was telling us about the USO at Ontario  
13 Airport, and he encouraged us to continue our support.  
14 And they also need a lot of help there; so that was very  
15 nice of him to come and join us.

16 With no further business, this meeting  
17 adjourned with prayer at 11:55 a.m.

18 Madam President, may I continue with my  
19 supplemental report and first place awards?

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yes, you may.

21 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:

22 Thank you.

23 Madam President, your Children & Youth Fiddlers  
24 have been playing around, but in a very good way. Unit  
25 members have been busy performing the "Power of Love"  
26 while singing the "Greatest Love of All" to the children  
27 of this great state.

28 As you can see by the statistical report, our  
29 members provided children with many donations,  
30 innovative activities, opportunities, and fun-filled  
31 events all year long. After realizing that a group of  
32 Little League softball players would not receive  
33 baseball hats due to budget cuts, Unit 807 members were  
34 offended, and they decided to do something about it.  
35 They raised enough money to buy 38 sun visors to match  
36 the uniforms and provide necessary protection from the  
37 sun.

38 This same unit partnered with a new program  
39 called C.A.S.T. or C.A.S.T., who provides a fishing  
40 derby for all special -- or special needs children. The  
41 members of this unit volunteered many hours and donated  
42 \$300 to sponsor two girls and two boys by providing all  
43 the gear they needed to start fishing. This same  
44 unit -- these same unit members also hosted a toy run  
45 and assisted distributing \$12,000 worth of toys to the  
46 Salvation Army, local churches, and other nonprofit  
47 organizations for Christmas. Other innovative unit  
48 projects included a unit holding a poetry contest on  
49 citizenship that involved 24 fifth and sixth grade  
50 students with cash awards totaling \$100.

1           Many units took advantage of Operation Military  
2 Kids who provides free hero backpacks for military  
3 children. Unit members filled backpacks with school  
4 supplies, toys, gifts, gift cards, cameras, games,  
5 snacks, and candies. These backpacks were given to  
6 military children at yellow ribbon events, USO  
7 homecomings, welcome home parties, and holiday parties.

8           Our own Department Juniors participated in  
9 a statewide OMK project at Junior Conference.  
10 Berney DeLaCruz, State Coordinator for OMK, graciously  
11 accepted my invitation to be our guest speaker.  
12 Unfortunately, I was unable to attend, but I was told  
13 the presentation went very well. I know Berney had a  
14 great time as he helped the Juniors fill hero backpacks  
15 that were later distributed to Southern California  
16 military children. I would like to personally thank  
17 Junior Conference Director Kathie Martinez and Madam  
18 President Pilar for being the hostesses with the mostest  
19 and making Berney feel so welcome in my absence.

20           Unit 694 worked alongside their close family  
21 members and other organizations to raise \$1,000 to  
22 donate to Children's Miracle Network.

23           (Applause.)

24           CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:  
25 These funds were presented to a local hospital to  
26 purchase Josh Dogs. In collaboration with our own  
27 Department Education Chairman Harriet Clendenin, we  
28 tackled the increasing bullying and suicide rates among  
29 military children, especially in schools. We launched  
30 awareness and prevention tips with brochures received  
31 from the American Legion that were presented to local  
32 area schools. Our unit used ALA KIDDS to host an  
33 anti-bully workshop at their local school.

34           One unit -- I'm sorry.

35           There are many young people who do not receive  
36 the recognition they deserve, but gratefully many units  
37 submitted nominations for our distinguished National  
38 Youth Hero and Good Deed Award honor.

39           Tehachapi Unit 2231 submitted four award  
40 winners, one of them Duncan Wolf, a local teenager, who  
41 managed to stay calm, performed CPR on his father who  
42 collapsed, and ultimately saved his father's life. This  
43 same unit also awarded good deed honors to a young girl  
44 who cut her hair to donate to Locks of Love and other  
45 girls who made and sold bookmarks to raise funds for  
46 St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

47           An awards ceremony was held in June by this  
48 unit to present these deserving youths with certificates  
49 and medals, with the press and politicians in  
50 attendance.

1           During these tough economic times, we have seen  
2 a rise in the suffering among many veterans and their  
3 children, as you have heard this weekend. Units have  
4 provided temporary financial assistance directly to  
5 veterans' families to assist with rent payments. As  
6 chairman I have received three department TFA  
7 applications that were approved, and I just received one  
8 today for another family that is in dire need of our  
9 help. If we can help out more, they would appreciate it  
10 because there are many veterans with children who are  
11 suffering; so if you can donate to our department  
12 Temporary Financial Assistance Fund, it would be greatly  
13 appreciated.

14           Unit members were especially busy during April,  
15 Children & Youth Month. Many units hosted Easter  
16 parties, worked in conjunction with the community on  
17 Easter egg hunts, or donated food, baby clothing, toys,  
18 school supplies to special needs children, and money to  
19 military families.

20           Unit 419 worked with yellow ribbon events and  
21 distributed 200 Operation Military Kids hero backpacks  
22 to military children.

23           Unit 53 supports a shelter for homeless women  
24 with children at March Air Force Base with clothing,  
25 books, games, baby formula, and diapers.

26           Unit 146 partnered with the Starlings traveling  
27 all-girl volleyball team to make over 200 Easter eggs  
28 filled with candies for the Camp Pendleton annual Easter  
29 egg hunt. This venture was so successful they plan to  
30 work on future joint projects.

31           Madam President, at this time I would like to  
32 present the first place awards for the outstanding  
33 overall Children & Youth program.

34           First place unit award goes to the small, but  
35 mighty, as their report states, the newer unit,  
36 Oceanside, Unit 146, District 22, Cyndy Simons,  
37 Chairman. This report has been referred to National for  
38 further competition. Simons, but it is spelled like  
39 Simons.

40           Now our first place district award goes to  
41 District 22, Ann Marie Brown, Chairman.

42           (Applause.)

43           CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:  
44 Ann Marie does great work, and she is now getting to the  
45 conventions.

46           Thank you all. You did a fabulous job in the  
47 state. I cannot thank the unit members enough for their  
48 generosity. Units continue to visit Ronald McDonald  
49 houses, donating pull tabs, clothing, and food. Our  
50 unit members have been very generous with their

1 donations made to the American Legion Children's Home,  
2 Child Welfare Foundation, and to the department fund by  
3 playing the "Name That Tune" game. Although economic  
4 times are tough, it is important that we find the money  
5 to donate, continue our volunteer efforts, and help  
6 children. We possess the greatest love of all inside  
7 each and every one of us. As long as we can let the  
8 children's laughter remind us how we used to be, we can  
9 continue to make life better for our nation's children.

10 Madam President, thank you for this most  
11 rewarding appointment.

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are very  
13 welcome.

14 Thank you very much.

15 (Applause.)

16 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS: May  
17 I approach?

18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.

19 CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BIGGS:

20 See, I would have come anyway.

21 And, Madam President, I did mention earlier  
22 that I did have the pleasure and the opportunity to sit  
23 next to our National Children & Youth Chairman. But  
24 give our National Children & Youth a big hand of  
25 applause for her getting us on the right track.

26 Thank you, Nancy.

27 (Applause.)

28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Linda Fercho,  
29 Leadership Chairman, from our Department President for  
30 2012-2011.

31 (Music played.)

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Finance Committee,  
33 Advisory, and Distinguished Guest Chairman should be on  
34 the stage.

35

36 LEADERSHIP REPORT

37 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: I tell  
38 you, I've got all these papers. I was so organized  
39 before I sat down this morning. I was just saying I was  
40 so organized before I sat down this morning, and then  
41 everything, you know, got all mixed up.

42 But anyway, thank you all. And thank you for  
43 the wonderful ovation for me and for voting for me.

44 Thank you, Madam President.

45 Thank you, ladies.

46 (Applause.)

47 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: The  
48 Leadership meeting convened at 9:20.

49 Opening remarks by Department Leadership  
50 Chairman Linda Fercho welcoming everyone and thanking

1 them for attending.  
2 I appointed -- Linda Fercho, Chairman,  
3 appointed, with consent of the delegates present,  
4 Pat Lindley, District 1, as Secretary.  
5 Past Department President LuAnn Capazzi,  
6 District 27, as Chaplain.  
7 Jerine Adams, District 16, as Sergeant-at-Arms.  
8 Prayer was offered. The Pledge of Allegiance  
9 was recited. Roll call was done.  
10 There were 23 district delegates there and six  
11 guests present.  
12 The statistical report is on Page 14.  
13 No code changes.  
14 No resolutions.  
15 (Applause.)  
16 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO:  
17 I already had their minutes printed up; so I said we  
18 can't do any of that. It will happen next year, if at  
19 all.  
20 Packets of information were distributed, as  
21 well as all the awards, other than the first place  
22 awards. Also, Chairman Linda Fercho did distribute the  
23 Certified Leadership Cards to each district.  
24 The Code was read and the meeting dismissed at  
25 10:00.  
26 Madam President, may I continue with my remarks  
27 and first place awards?  
28 Madam President, well, I promised you that  
29 your Leadership Chairman would be fiddling this year  
30 Charlie Daniels style, wild and crazy, and they have not  
31 disappointed you.  
32 This year there were over -- there were four  
33 Department leadership workshops held, and I want to  
34 thank Wendy O'Brien, District 6, and Rebecca  
35 Stewart-Wilson from District 24, Margaret Gardner from  
36 District 19, and their entire post family who hosted  
37 these events and welcomed us with great food, fun, and  
38 fellowship. Wow.  
39 We certified 76 new leadership instructors this  
40 year. 14 districts increased the number of certified  
41 instructors in their district.  
42 I want to thank Ruby Kapsalis, in part, for the  
43 awesome job she had done, getting all this new  
44 information and making all the new lists. Not only were  
45 they in the packets, but they have it online so you can  
46 check and see who are the certified leaders in your  
47 district.  
48 This year at the workshops we had a hardcopy  
49 available of our Leadership Workshop booklet, but we  
50 also scanned it and created a hundred CDs that were

1 handed out at no charge to units and districts in  
2 attendance. I talked about these at the Leadership  
3 meeting; so I am not going over that again, but I will  
4 be glad to give a copy to your unit or district if you  
5 did not receive one, and I think you will find it very  
6 informative. But ask around and see if you can borrow  
7 it because, like I said, there were 100 distributed.

8 I can't thank Bill Clapp enough of Lakewood  
9 Post, the Membership Director this year for the Legion,  
10 who made all the copies, put them in really nice covers,  
11 and made a cover for it. I have a really nice gift for  
12 him, and I plan to give it to him later. The gift is in  
13 liquid form, and I didn't put it on my expense report;  
14 so I figured, okay. It is okay to give him that.

15 This is a fantastic way, though, to share the  
16 information. It was much more economical, all that  
17 printing, all that cost of copies, and all of that; so  
18 I recommend highly if you have anyone in your unit or  
19 district that can copy that, please do so. If not, let  
20 me know, send me a note, and I will get that to you.

21 I want to take -- I always talk too fast and  
22 then I use words that are called snigglets, and that was  
23 a snigglet. Tank is thank you, team. It's called tank,  
24 thank you, team.

25 I want to thank my team that travelled with me.  
26 My -- they were my backup band, and they really were  
27 fiddling fast and furious. They are from Unit 741.  
28 Jeri Adams, please stand. Roberta Fenney, please stand.  
29 Madeline Lee, please stand. And from Unit 48, Rosemary  
30 Weber, please stand.

31 (Applause.)

32 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: We  
33 cannot do the job, ladies, that we do without a team,  
34 and we can't do it without mentoring. And they are the  
35 product of being able to mentor. And I haven't -- I've  
36 got an emergency meeting, but my daughter turned 35, and  
37 my whole family was in Laughlin celebrating. Now, 35  
38 isn't a really big birthday. You know, it's not one of  
39 those milestones, except that on Christmas Day at  
40 10:00 she had her fourth child. So by the time she got  
41 to her birthday in March, she was ready to party. So  
42 our families decided she deserved that birthday party;  
43 so we all were in Laughlin. These ladies took over that  
44 workshop at Riverside, did an amazing job. I didn't  
45 even need to be there. That's what we want to do. We  
46 want to train and teach and lead people so you cannot be  
47 there.

48 (Applause.)

49 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: And they  
50 did a great job.



1 Thank you again.  
2 (Applause.)  
3 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: In  
4 closing, this chairman could not be more proud of the  
5 Charlie Daniels Fiddlers and the Department of  
6 California. Throughout their actions, not just the  
7 spoken word, they have showed their skills in mentoring  
8 and training officers and nurturing our Junior members  
9 and securing our future with our Junior members.  
10 One unit's mission statement for the Leadership  
11 program I believe says it all. "To ensure as volunteers  
12 that Auxiliary members and our post family continue to  
13 be leaders in all that is good in this nation today,  
14 tomorrow, and for generations to come through serving  
15 others first and not self."  
16 This was written by Sharon Moore of  
17 District 23, Jackie Robinson, Unit 252.  
18 (Applause.)  
19 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO:  
20 Madam President, at this time that does complete my  
21 committee report and my notes.  
22 I would like to issue my first place awards, if  
23 I may.  
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.  
25 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Thank  
26 you.  
27 My first place, Leadership Chairman,  
28 District 19, Linda Farriss.  
29 (Applause.)  
30 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Now  
31 a big drum roll. This report went on to National. We  
32 happen to have the National Leadership Chairman sitting  
33 at the front table over here; so I know it got there.  
34 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
35 You betcha, it did.  
36 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: This is  
37 great.  
38 And this award I am so excited about. This  
39 goes to Sharon Moore, Leadership Chairman,  
40 Jackie Robinson, Unit 252, for the best first place unit  
41 supplemental.  
42 (Applause.)  
43 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Thank  
44 you, Madam President.  
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Linda.  
46 Now I would like to call on the Finance  
47 committee: Linda Diebel, Chairman, Susie Tozier, Senior  
48 Member, and Norma Billings, Junior Member.  
49 (Music played.)  
50

1 FINANCE REPORT  
2 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
3 Linda Diebel, Finance Chairman, Department of  
4 California.  
5 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
6 TOZIER: Susie Tozier, Senior Member.  
7 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - JUNIOR MEMBER  
8 BILLINGS: Norma Billings, Junior Member.  
9 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
10 The convention committee on Finance met on Thursday,  
11 June 23rd, 2011, in Room 106A of the Ontario Convention  
12 Center in Ontario, California.  
13 Susie Tozier, District 22, acted as Chaplain.  
14 Norma Billings, District 27, acted as  
15 Secretary.  
16 Judy Zarate, District 19, was appointed  
17 Sergeant-at-Arms.  
18 The meeting opened with a prayer by  
19 Susie Tozier.  
20 Norma Billings took roll call.  
21 21 district delegates were present. We had one  
22 guest.  
23 The meeting began with the reading of the  
24 Finance Department Code, and that is Pages 25 to 28 of  
25 the Department Code.  
26 At this time I am going to present the code  
27 changes from the meeting.  
28 The first code change on Page 25, Number 8,  
29 currently reads:  
30 A fee of \$2 per Girls State citizen from the  
31 Girls State Fund shall be transferred to the general  
32 fund.  
33 The Finance committee recommended the deletion  
34 of this code in its entirety. By the direction of the  
35 Finance committee, I move the deletion of this code.  
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
37 to delete Code Number 8. Any discussion?  
38 (No response.)  
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say  
40 aye.  
41 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
43 (No response.)  
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
45 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
46 All remaining codes in that section will be renumbered.  
47 On Page 26, under Department Budget,  
48 Code Number 5 currently reads:  
49 Unit donations to the welfare funds of  
50 10 percent of the poppy proceeds shall be used for

1 Children & Youth, Education, Past Presidents Parley  
2 Nursing Scholarship, and Veterans Affairs &  
3 Rehabilitation budgets. Any balance of the 10 percent  
4 poppy proceeds from the previous year's funds will be  
5 used to cover deficits in the welfare accounts.  
6 That was approved in 2010.  
7 By recommendation of the committee, the code  
8 will be changed to read:  
9 Unit donations to the welfare funds of  
10 10 percent of the poppy proceeds shall be used for  
11 Children & Youth, Education, Past Presidents Parley  
12 Nursing Scholarship, and Veterans Affairs &  
13 Rehabilitation budgets. Any balance of the 10 percent  
14 of poppy distribution account number --  
15 This is what we are adding, the account number.  
16 -- PF44502 will be used to cover deficiencies  
17 in the welfare accounts.  
18 By direction of the Finance committee, I move  
19 the acceptance of this code change.  
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It is moved to  
21 accept the code change presented.  
22 Any discussion? Hear any discussion?  
23 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
24 Yeah. Ruby is walking up there.  
25 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Past  
26 Department President Ruby Kapsalis.  
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Ruby  
28 Kapsalis, District 20.  
29 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Linda,  
30 I believe there was an additional sentence on that  
31 saying that the remaining funds that are not distributed  
32 are to be -- go into the poppy fund -- remain in the  
33 poppy fund. I have the exact --  
34 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
35 Make an amendment to the original motion?  
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay.  
37 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
38 The last sentence should read:  
39 When a deficiency exists, the interest income  
40 and 10 percent of GL Account -- General Fund Account  
41 GF44502 shall be distributed to the deficit account.  
42 The remaining balance after 10 percent is deducted shall  
43 be credited to the poppy account.  
44 I move the acceptance of this amendment.  
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
46 to accept the amendment to this proposed first motion.  
47 Any discussion?  
48 (No response.)  
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
50 those in favor say aye.

1 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
3 (No response.)  
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted, so....  
5 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
6 By direction of the committee and this body, I move that  
7 the code change as amended be adopted.  
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. It has been  
9 moved to adopt the amended motion.  
10 Any discussion?  
11 (No response.)  
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
13 those in favor say aye.  
14 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
16 (No response.)  
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: No? Adopted.  
18 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
19 On the same Page 26, we would like to add a code,  
20 Code Number 9, which would read:  
21 A national candidate's campaign fund shall be  
22 budgeted. If not used, funds will be placed in  
23 a reserve account, Account Number GF62461.  
24 By direction of the Finance committee, I move  
25 the acceptance of this code addition.  
26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
27 to adopt the addition to the code, Code Number 9.  
28 Any discussion?  
29 (No response.)  
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
31 those in favor say aye.  
32 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
34 (No response.)  
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
36 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
37 Next code change is on Page 27, Code Number 3, which  
38 currently reads:  
39 Department officers and chairmen shall file  
40 expense -- expense sheets semiannually. The department  
41 office shall forward the first allowance soon after  
42 convention. Any chairman or officer whose allowance is  
43 under \$100 shall be paid once at the beginning of the  
44 year. Final estimated accounting by all shall be  
45 forwarded to the department office by May 1st, except  
46 for the Poppy and Past Presidents Parley Chairman, or  
47 reimbursement of convention allowance shall be  
48 forfeited.  
49 That was changed in 2010.  
50 By recommendation of the Finance committee, the

1 change would read:  
2 Department officers and chairmen shall file  
3 expense sheets semiannually. The department office  
4 shall forward the first allowance soon after convention.  
5 Any Chairman or officer whose allowance is under \$100  
6 shall be paid once at the beginning of the year. Final  
7 estimated accounting by all shall be forwarded to the  
8 department office by May 1st, except for the Poppy  
9 Chairman, Past Presidents Parley Chairman, and the  
10 Distinguished Guest Chairman, or reimbursement of  
11 convention allowance will be forfeited.  
12 The addition is "Distinguished Guest Chairman."  
13 By direction of the Finance committee, I move  
14 the acceptance of this code change.  
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
16 to accept the addition of Distinguished Guest Chairman  
17 to the code.  
18 Any discussion?  
19 (No response.)  
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
21 those in favor say aye.  
22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
24 (No response.)  
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
26 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
27 On Page 27, Code Number 8, the committee would like to  
28 split this code into two. It currently reads:  
29 Authorized travel for meetings and conferences  
30 held outside the state of California not covered in the  
31 Department Constitution and Bylaws shall be based on the  
32 rate established by the Department Finance committee,  
33 subject to approval by the Department President and the  
34 Finance Chairman. \$800 will be budgeted annually and  
35 placed into the general fund convention expense, Line  
36 Item G624 by the Finance committee to cover a maximum of  
37 \$400 each for the Department President, Junior Past  
38 President, plus airfare -- plus plane fare, economy if  
39 possible, while serving as delegates and attending  
40 National Convention.  
41 This was done in 2006.  
42 The code change would be, Number 8:  
43 Authorized travel for meetings and conferences  
44 held outside the state of California not covered in the  
45 Department Constitution and Bylaws shall be based on the  
46 rates established by the Department Finance committee  
47 subject to approval by the Department President and the  
48 Finance Chairman.  
49 And that's where that code would end.  
50 By direction of the Finance committee, I move

1 the acceptance of this code change.  
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
3 to accept the change on Code Number 9 to split it into  
4 two, and a new code will be added.  
5 Any discussion?  
6 (No response.)  
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
8 those in favor say aye.  
9 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
11 (No response.)  
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
13 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
14 The second half the new code would be:  
15 \$1,200 will be budgeted annually and placed  
16 into the general fund convention expense, General Ledger  
17 Account Number GF62477 by the Finance committee to cover  
18 a maximum of \$400 each for the Department President, the  
19 Department Junior Past President, and the Convention  
20 Secretary, plus airfare, economy if possible, while  
21 serving as delegates while attending National  
22 Convention.  
23 The change is "\$800" to "\$1200" because we are  
24 adding in the Convention Secretary.  
25 By direction of the Finance committee, I move  
26 the acceptance of this new code.  
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
28 to accept the new code, and it will be numbered  
29 Number 9.  
30 Any discussion?  
31 (No response.)  
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
33 those in favor say aye.  
34 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
36 (No response.)  
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted. The  
38 remaining codes in that section will be renumbered.  
39 Okay.  
40 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
41 The next code change is on Page 27. Currently it is  
42 Number 10. It would be renumbered to Number 11. The  
43 code reads at this time:  
44 A fee of \$25 will be charged to any unit,  
45 district, department officer -- I'm sorry. I was on the  
46 wrong page. Excuse me. Number 10:  
47 Department officers, chairmen, District  
48 Presidents, and medical center representatives shall  
49 calculate travel expenses at 25 cents a mile en route or  
50 coach fare, plus cost of meals and lodging when

1 necessary. This shall apply to all meetings or  
2 conferences within the United -- within the state of  
3 California.  
4 That was done in 2008.  
5 The new code would read:  
6 Department officers, chairmen, District  
7 Presidents, and medical center representatives shall  
8 calculate travel expenses at 25 cents a mile en route or  
9 coach fare. This shall apply to called meetings or  
10 conferences within the state of California.  
11 We are deleting "plus cost of meals and lodging  
12 when necessary."  
13 By direction of the Finance committee, I move  
14 the acceptance of this code change.  
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
16 to accept the change to delete plus cost of meals and  
17 lodging when necessary.  
18 Any discussion?  
19 (No response.)  
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Those in favor say  
21 aye.  
22 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
24 (No response.)  
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
26 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
27 Currently on Page 28, Code Number 11 currently reads:  
28 The Department of California will pay for one  
29 meal for each of the national representatives during the  
30 annual visit of the National President, the cost of the  
31 meal to come from the Distinguished Guest budget.  
32 By recommendation of the Finance committee,  
33 I move the deletion of this code in its entirety.  
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
35 to adopt the deletion of Code Number 12 in its entirety.  
36 Any discussion?  
37 (No response.)  
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
39 those in favor say aye.  
40 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed, no?  
42 (No response.)  
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
44 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
45 On Page 28, under miscellaneous, Code Number 1 currently  
46 reads:  
47 An amount not to exceed \$10,000 welfare funds  
48 be released and expended under the supervision of the  
49 Department President, Secretary/Treasurer, and the  
50 Finance Chairman in the event of a major disaster.

1 Those eligible for assistance shall be members and  
2 dependents of the American Legion Auxiliary and/or the  
3 American Legion.  
4 The code change would read:  
5 An amount not to exceed \$10,000 for the  
6 California Disaster Fund be released and expended under  
7 supervision of the Department Secretary/Treasurer and  
8 the Finance committee in the event of a major disaster.  
9 Those eligible for assistance shall be members and  
10 dependents of the American Legion Auxiliary or the  
11 American Legion.  
12 We want to remove the word "welfare" and put in  
13 "California Disaster Fund."  
14 By direction of the Finance committee, I move  
15 the acceptance of this code change.  
16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
17 to adopt the change proposed, and I would like to hear  
18 discussion.  
19 Any discussion?  
20 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
21 There is a typo error on my motion, Madam President.  
22 I left out Department President in there. Sorry.  
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Can you  
24 please read again --  
25 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
26 I will read it.  
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: -- corrected.  
28 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
29 An amount not to exceed \$10,000, California Disaster  
30 Fund be released and expended under the supervision of  
31 the Department President, Secretary/Treasurer, and the  
32 Finance Chairman in the event of a major disaster.  
33 Those eligible for assistance shall be members and  
34 dependents of the American Legion Auxiliary and/or the  
35 American Legion.  
36 I move to be accepted -- by the direction of  
37 the Finance committee, I move the acceptance of this  
38 code change.  
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: It has been moved  
40 to accept the proposed change in Code Number 1.  
41 Any discussion?  
42 (No response.)  
43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Hearing none,  
44 those in favor please say aye.  
45 ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Opposed?  
47 (No response.)  
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Adopted.  
49 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
50 Madam President, that is all of the code changes for the



1 Finance committee.  
2 (Applause.)  
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. That was  
4 easy. There is a lot, but it was easy.  
5 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
6 The committee took a ten-minute break to prepare to go  
7 over the budget. We read the budget. There were some  
8 corrections to various accounts, which were open for  
9 discussion.  
10 The meeting was closed at 12:30 p.m.  
11 Madam President, may I go on with my -- with  
12 the review of the budget?  
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Please.  
14 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
15 I'm going to have Susie go through the first section.  
16 I need a drink of water.  
17  
18 FINANCE BUDGET  
19 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
20 TOZIER: Okay. Ladies, you were all given a copy of the  
21 budget?  
22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.  
23 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
24 TOZIER: Okay. First one, Dues Membership, Seniors and  
25 Juniors - 244,273.  
26 Dues, U1000 - 10,392.  
27 Dues, Auxiliary New Assessment - 22,512.  
28 Postage Income - 1,500.  
29 Unit Supply Orders - 500.  
30 Ways and Means Cruise, slash Trip - 4,000.  
31 eScript - 100.  
32 Ways and Means, other - 2,000.  
33 Current Department President Pins - 6,000.  
34 Donations in Loving Tribute - 1,200.  
35 Donations, President's Club - 1,000.  
36 Interest Income, Unrestricted - 7,500.  
37 Admin Income, Other Accounts - 20,956.  
38 There is no income anymore for Girls State.  
39 Fidelity Bond - 500.  
40 Delegate Fees to Convention -- 19,460.  
41 Income from National - 1,000.  
42 Department Convention Proceedings - 100.  
43 Sweepstakes - 12,000.  
44 Department President's Special Project -  
45 30,000.  
46 Department Convention Banquet - 4,000.  
47 Department Past Presidents Parley Luncheon -  
48 2,500.  
49 Midyear DEC Meals - 2,500.  
50 For a total program general fund income of --

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1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: 2,250.  
2 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
3 TOZIER: I'm sorry, 2,250. I figured it right.  
4 For a total income of 393,743.  
5 Under Expenses, General Fund Administrative -  
6 93,365.  
7 Oh, I'm sorry. The first one is salary.  
8 That one is 93,365.  
9 Payroll Tax - 9,675.  
10 Insurance Liability - 2,500.  
11 Supplies - 3,000.  
12 Postage - 4,500.  
13 Telephone, Telecommunications - 2,100.  
14 Computer Supplies, Website - 400.  
15 Employee Insurance - 200.  
16 Workman's Compensation Insurance - 600.  
17 Equipment Rental and Maintenance - 6,000.  
18 Rent, Parking, and Utilities - 500.  
19 Fidelity Bond - 500.  
20 Finance Committee - 3,500.  
21 Accounting and Auditing - 18,000.  
22 Payroll Service - 1,500.  
23 Auxiliary News Publishing -- oh, Auxiliary News  
24 Editor - \$50.  
25 Auxiliary News Publishing -- 22,512.  
26 Finance Chair - \$50.  
27 Filing Fees and FTB Fees - 800.  
28 Bank Fees and Returned Checks - 2,000.  
29 Total General Fund Administrative - 177,752.  
30 National News -- \$109,012.  
31 Department President's Pins - 2,000.  
32 Ways and Means, Fundraising for Pins and  
33 Charms, Promo - 3,000.  
34 Ways and Means, Other - \$500.  
35 For a Total of 3,500 for Ways and Means.  
36 Department President, Special Project - 30,000.  
37 General Fund, Other Expenses, Total - 144,512.  
38 General Fund, Executive Expenses, Department  
39 President - 77,500.  
40 Department Vice President - 200.  
41 District Presidents - 4,500.  
42 Training and Program Workshops - 4,000.  
43 Parliamentarian - \$25.  
44 Authorized Travel - 2,000.  
45 Executive Committee - 12,300.  
46 Distinguished Guests - 400.  
47 Secretary/Treasurer Travel Allowance - 300.  
48 Oh, I'm sorry. 500.  
49 Department President's Pin was 300.  
50 National Candidates Reserve - 500.

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1 National President's Visit - 1,500.  
2 Officers and Chair Liability - 1,800.  
3 President's Secretary National Meeting - 1,000.  
4 Musician - \$25.  
5 General Fund, Executive, Other, total is  
6 36,550.  
7 General Fund, Convention Expense - 25,000.  
8 Department Convention -- oh. The mileage is  
9 25,000.  
10 Department Convention Proceedings is \$300.  
11 Convention Reporter - 5,500.  
12 Convention Committee Chairman - \$200.  
13 Convention Chairman, Department - \$300.  
14 AL Convention Commission - \$5,000.  
15 National Convention - \$4,000.  
16 For a Total for the Convention Expenses of  
17 40,300.  
18 General Fund, Committee Expenses, Auxiliary  
19 Emergency Fund - \$50.  
20 Constitution and Bylaws - \$155.  
21 Chaplain - \$150.  
22 Community Service - \$50.  
23 Historian - 375.  
24 Junior Activities - \$50.  
25 Leadership - \$150.  
26 Legislative - 1,000.  
27 Oh, I'm sorry. \$50.  
28 Legislative, Awareness Assembly - 1,000.  
29 Membership Chairman -- sorry. I just lost my  
30 place. Membership Chairman - 350.  
31 Membership, Promotion - 500.  
32 Membership, National Meeting - 1,700.  
33 National Security Chairman - \$50.  
34 Public Relations Chairman - \$50. Wait  
35 a minute. Yes.  
36 Press Book - \$50.  
37 Ways and Means Chairman - \$50.  
38 For General Expense -- Total General Expenses -  
39 4800.  
40 Did I miss one?  
41 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Maybe  
42 I'm getting dingy. It's late in the afternoon. I'm not  
43 sure.  
44 Through Legislative the Awareness Assembly, did  
45 we not vote on \$125 for three days max? Plus airfare?  
46 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
47 TOZIER: Plus airfare.  
48 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: So  
49 shouldn't that be --  
50 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER

1 TOZIER: It's 375, plus the airfare.  
2 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: No. The  
3 airfare is paid by National.  
4 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
5 TOZIER: Oh, okay.  
6 DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: So  
7 wouldn't that be \$375?  
8 DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:  
9 Yeah.  
10 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
11 TOZIER: That would be \$375.  
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So are we going to  
13 change that?  
14 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
15 TOZIER: That would be -- for a new total for that  
16 section - \$4,175, if my toes are still working.  
17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BROWN PARK: I'm  
18 sorry. The Code was read.  
19 Nancy Brown Park, Past Department President.  
20 To send the Legislative Chairman -- or the  
21 President -- or Vice President, the room rate is \$250  
22 a night; so unless she has a roommate, that is just the  
23 room. That does not include what she eats. That just  
24 seems to be that -- I mean, we're not helping them out  
25 very much. \$125 -- the room rate at the hotel in  
26 Washington D.C. is \$250 a night.  
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Yeah. The room  
28 rates here are 250 for one night.  
29 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:  
30 Department Secretary.  
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Doris.  
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:  
33 I would like to clarify something on the -- on the line  
34 item on the first page with the bank fees and the  
35 returned checks.  
36 The \$2089.98 of actual, I think the Finance  
37 committee can revise that amount for next year in the  
38 budget. The problem that we had in the beginning of  
39 this year -- this fiscal year was when we started the  
40 new database system -- we are now processing every  
41 membership dues to National via ACH transaction. It  
42 took us almost two months to find out that Wells Fargo  
43 was charging us for every transaction over 300  
44 approximately \$3 apiece; so we then had to change the  
45 process of how we transacted, and we only did it every  
46 three days, sometimes once a week so we would not be  
47 charged that many transactions.  
48 So, therefore, that was a -- you know, a lesson  
49 well earned -- learned. But I think that they can  
50 probably make some changes to the \$2,000 in that expense

1 line.  
2 I would suggest you leave it at the 1,000, or  
3 if you want to add it make it 1200, just to cover  
4 yourselves. All the banks are starting to charge us  
5 fees for everything. I mean, it doesn't matter whether  
6 we are nonprofit or not. They just don't seem to care.  
7 And I have done a lot of phone calling and arguing and  
8 fighting with them, and unless we can find some --  
9 a bank that would give us a little more of a break --  
10 and those are still in the works for researching, and  
11 I've been talking to several of them; so -- but I think  
12 that line item can be decreased at least 800.  
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay. Could you  
14 please address that item?  
15 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: They  
16 have.  
17 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
18 TOZIER: Okay. If we change that to 1,200, the new  
19 total for General Fund, Administrative is 176,952.  
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Repeat that,  
21 please.  
22 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
23 TOZIER: 176,952.  
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you.  
25 Okay. Now we go back. Can we go back to  
26 Legislative?  
27 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
28 TOZIER: We're also going to decrease line -- on Page 2  
29 under Convention Expenses. I'm trying to find it.  
30 Sorry. The Convention Chair should read instead of  
31 300 -- it's Line Number GF62475, instead of 300 that  
32 should be 150. So 40,150 for that new total for that  
33 line.  
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Okay.  
35 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
36 TOZIER: 40,150 would be the total for the convention  
37 expenses.  
38 One second. I have to add this up.  
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Did you get the  
40 change?  
41 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.  
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Convention Chair  
43 changed from 300 to 150; so your total will be reduced  
44 150 for the 1,050.  
45 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
46 There is one other correction I want to make, and that  
47 is GF62490, Legislative, Awareness Assembly. They  
48 changed it from 1,000 to 375. I want to make sure you  
49 got that. That changes the total down at the bottom to  
50 4,175.

1 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
2 TOZIER: Line Number -- she's talking about Line Number  
3 GF62490 on Page 2, towards the bottom, the Legislative,  
4 Awareness Assembly.  
5 So the Total General Fund Income on the next  
6 page is recapped: 393,743. 393,743. We're doing the  
7 recap right now.  
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: That's General?  
9 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
10 TOZIER: General Fund. This is on your Page 3 at the  
11 top.  
12 General Fund, Administrative Expense is  
13 176,952.  
14 General Fund, Other Expense - 144,512.  
15 General Fund, Executive Expense - 36,550.  
16 General Fund, Convention Expense - 40,150.  
17 General Fund, Committee Expense - 4175.  
18 For a new total of 402,339.  
19 Hold on one second.  
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Do we have  
21 a subtotal?  
22 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
23 TOZIER: Oh, I'm sorry. The subtotal is -- for the  
24 total expense is 402,339.  
25 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARRISS:  
26 Madam President?  
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Recognizing Linda  
28 Farriss of District 19.  
29 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARRISS:  
30 Thank you. Linda Farriss, District 19, Unit 314.  
31 I might have missed something, but if we  
32 subtract \$375 from \$4,800 --  
33 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
34 TOZIER: Yes, you're right.  
35 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARRISS: --  
36 that's going to come to 4425.  
37 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
38 TOZIER: She's right.  
39 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FARRISS:  
40 Thank you.  
41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you, Linda.  
42 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
43 TOZIER: Line number -- for the total for the Committee  
44 Expense is 4425.  
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: What line is that?  
46 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
47 TOZIER: That is, the Grand Total for GF62480, General  
48 Fund Committee Expense - 4425.  
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: 4425. 4425. Did  
50 you follow that? 4425.

1 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
2 TOZIER: If you look at your readback, the last one is  
3 GF62480, General Fund Committee Expense, the total  
4 should be 4425, for a Grand Total, Compensation -  
5 402,589.  
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Now, what do you  
7 have?  
8 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
9 TOZIER: I was right the first time. It should be --  
10 I hope you have erasers -- 4,175 total for the General  
11 Fund Committee Expense. The reason why is we had \$1,000  
12 budgeted. We took away \$625. Oh, so that brings you  
13 down from 4,800 to 4,175; so that is GF62480, Committee  
14 Expense.  
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: So what is our  
16 total?  
17 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
18 TOZIER: I'm going to see if I'm right before I say  
19 anything. 402,339.  
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Back to the  
21 original.  
22 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
23 TOZIER: For a net of -- we're in the hole 8,596.  
24 General Fund is over \$8,596.  
25 The Americanism program, we have \$5,000 of  
26 donation. That's your income.  
27 You have \$75 for the Chairman.  
28 For Americanism Essays, Awards, and Grants, we  
29 have -- Administrative Fee is 1,250. That's 25 percent  
30 of the donations. That goes into the General Fund.  
31 For the Essays - 3,675.  
32 Total Expenses - \$5,000.  
33 California Emergency Fund, Disaster Fund -  
34 \$2,000.  
35 Those two are -- wait. That is the general  
36 part.  
37 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - JUNIOR MEMBER  
38 BILLINGS: Okay. To continue, on Page 4, Poppy  
39 Production Fund Income was 65,737.  
40 Poppy Distribution was 12,000.  
41 And the total for the Poppy Production Fund  
42 Income is at \$77,737.  
43 Okay. Now into the expense. Postage, Poppy  
44 Production Manager - 1,000.  
45 Poppy, Proceeds Distribution - 1200.  
46 Administration Fee -- yes -- \$6,605.  
47 Poppy, Production and Labor - 41,657.  
48 Poppy, Production Poppy Kits - 16,000.  
49 Poppy, Production Poster Prizes - 300.  
50 Poppy, Production Chair - \$175.

1           And the total of the Fund Expense - \$66,937.  
2           Okay. VA&R Program. The VA&R Donations, Unit  
3 Income is at 18,000.  
4           Poppy, Proceeds Distribution - \$400.  
5           Donations, Give Patient Remembrance - \$14,000.  
6           Interest Income, which is restricted - \$500.  
7           And the Welfare Fund, VA&R, Other -- we're at  
8 zero on that one.  
9           Okay. And then the total is Welfare Fund --  
10 per the Welfare Fund is \$32,900.  
11           And then into the Expense Administrative Fee -  
12 \$4,575.  
13           TFA Cases - \$4,344.  
14           Patient Welfare Funds, VAMC Tours - \$1,500.  
15           Gift Shop, Patient Remembrance - 6,181.  
16           Hospital Representatives - 2,400.  
17           Midyear Meetings, Representatives - 2,500.  
18           National Rehabilitation - 3,500.  
19           Chairman - 400.  
20           And Total Welfare Funding Expense - \$32,900.  
21           Sure. The Welfare Funding Expense Total is  
22 \$32,900.  
23           VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE  
24 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Madam Chairman, Terry Mikesell, VA&R  
25 Chairman.  
26           The Welfare Fund for the Hospital  
27 Representatives, I explained in the committee meeting  
28 that the \$5,236 is a wrong figure. That should have  
29 \$3,886 subtracted from that. The Welfare Fund was  
30 posted in the wrong account.  
31           DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
32 The amount that's shown there, Terry, is as of the date  
33 above. We couldn't change it. It has been adjusted by  
34 the office, the General Fund, and it will show in next  
35 month's statement at the correct amount.  
36           VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE  
37 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Okay. Thank you.  
38           DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Just  
39 for a break -- I'm sorry.  
40           Ruby Kapsalis, Past Department President.  
41           Just for the information of the delegation, we  
42 had to eliminate all the patient welfare money going to  
43 all the VA medical centers from the VA fund just to  
44 balance. That's \$4,000 we had to cut out, and what that  
45 money is used for is to send to all the VA medical  
46 centers for veterans who can't afford a bus token, their  
47 meals. And because the donations were low and to  
48 balance the budget, we had to cut \$4,000 out of the  
49 budget. And I just wanted you to know that.  
50           DEPARTMENT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN TAYLOR:



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1 So make donations to VA&R.  
2 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
3 We're now on to Children & Youth.  
4 Children & Youth Donations, Unit Income -  
5 \$7,000.  
6 Copy Fund Distribution - \$400.  
7 Interest Income Restricted - \$500.  
8 For a Total Income for Children & Youth for  
9 7,900.  
10 Expense, Administrative Expense - \$1,750.  
11 TFA Welfare Cases - \$6,000.  
12 Chairman Expense - \$150.  
13 For a Total Welfare Expense, Children & Youth  
14 of 7,900.  
15 Education. Education, Donation Income -  
16 \$8,000.  
17 Poppy Fund Distribution - \$400.  
18 Income, Restricted Funds - \$1,000.  
19 Income, Poppy Seals - \$2,000.  
20 For a Total Income, Education, of \$11,400.  
21 Education Expense, Administrative Fee - \$2,000.  
22 Scholarships, General - \$7,750.  
23 Poppy Seals - \$1,500.  
24 Chairman - \$150.  
25 For a Total Welfare Expense, Education  
26 Expense -- excuse me -- of 1,400.  
27 Past Presidents Parley. Donations and Income -  
28 \$8,000.  
29 Poppy, Fund Distribution - \$400.  
30 Interest Income Restricted - \$300.  
31 For a Total Income for Past Presidents Parley  
32 of \$8,700.  
33 Expense, Administrative Fee - 2,000.  
34 Nurses Training Scholarship - 6,600.  
35 Chair Expense - \$100.  
36 For a Total Past Presidents Parley Expense of  
37 8,700.  
38 Madam President, by direction of the Finance  
39 committee, I move the acceptance of this budget.  
40 There was one correction. Go back to the  
41 beginning of the Welfare Account. On Poppy -- under  
42 Poppy Distribution, we read 12,000. That is a typo  
43 error. That should be 1200. We had a couple extra  
44 zeroes. That is why GF44502 on your income for  
45 Poppies -- it is Poppy Distribution. It's the second  
46 number. Page Number 4. I'm sorry. So it should be  
47 \$1200, not 12,000. That brings the Total Poppy  
48 Production Fund Income to 66,937, and we now have  
49 a balance of zero.  
50 Now, Madam President, by direction of the

1 Finance committee, I move the acceptance of this budget  
2 as adjusted.

3 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Do I have  
4 a second.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Second.

6 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: It has been  
7 moved and seconded that under the direction of the  
8 budget -- or the Finance committee that the budget be  
9 approved with the correction.

10 Is there any discussion?

11 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Madam  
12 Department President, Ruby Kapsalis, Past Department  
13 President.

14 I don't understand how we are going to adopt an  
15 \$8,000 deficit budget. Where is this money going to  
16 come from? Membership? No.

17 Let me tell you about membership. You don't  
18 want to hear about it. You are going to hear about it  
19 anyway, Anita. We get \$250,000 in under membership. We  
20 pay 109- or 110- under National. That leaves the  
21 department office \$140,000 worth of operating expense.

22 The next biggest fundraiser the Department of  
23 California has is \$15,000 for the sweepstakes. We need  
24 more income, and then it comes -- it goes down -- there  
25 is little pots of money. But this department is  
26 operating -- they are scrimping, bare boning the budget,  
27 and really need more money coming into this fund.  
28 Hopefully the sweepstakes maybe -- if you take the word  
29 back to your unit and promote it, have them buy it, then  
30 maybe we can get more money, but we need more money  
31 coming in.

32 But I would recommend that we -- with the  
33 adoption of a deficit budget that the finance committee  
34 look for ways of reducing it.

35 (Applause.)

36 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: You  
37 know what happened? The reserve accounts have dropped.  
38 We have the reserve money. Yes, we do. Actually, I'll  
39 let the finance committee tell you about the reserve  
40 because I don't know the exact figures. But every time  
41 we take money from the reserve, that is less interest  
42 income supporting the general fund. The money we earn  
43 from the investments comes right back into the general  
44 fund; so if we get those reserves down too low, we are  
45 not getting any income from interest. We are going to  
46 be in trouble too.

47 Just a point of information.

48 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Thank you.  
49 Recognizing Terry Mikesell at Microphone 1.  
50 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

1 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Yes. Even though it is supposed to  
2 be at the convention next year, I would recommend that  
3 you drop the AL convention commission to \$3,000;  
4 therefore, you are saving the Department 2,000. Diane  
5 and the guys already said they would support us up there  
6 at the 2350.

7 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
8 I'm sorry. 62476; right. The L.A. commission --  
9 convention commission for \$5,000 is the American Legion  
10 Department Commission that we are charged a fee for.  
11 They have not increased the fee that we are charged for  
12 that for the last five years. They have come to our  
13 Department Secretary, our Department President, and said  
14 they are going to increase it to 5,000 because we need  
15 to pay our fair share of the expense of putting this  
16 thing -- putting this thing together.

17 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE  
18 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Okay. The American Legion District  
19 Convention Corporation was willing to host our Auxiliary  
20 for \$2,350.

21 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
22 And we understand that we love the guys at Redding, but  
23 the Department of California Commission is charging us  
24 \$5,000.

25 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Well,  
26 the cap goes to the District 2 Corporation.

27 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE  
28 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: No, it doesn't.

29 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: It's the  
30 commission, not just --

31 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE  
32 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Doris.

33 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENIOR MEMBER  
34 TOZIER: If we budget for it, and it is there for  
35 \$5,000, we have the budget line there. If they only  
36 charge us \$2,300, then we have saved the money.

37 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION COMMITTEE  
38 CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: Susie, if you put it down there they  
39 will take it.

40 Doris.

41 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: You know  
42 I would say -- and I understand deficit budgets; that we  
43 don't want to have that. We don't have anything in  
44 writing from the convention commission that they are  
45 going to drop us down. We have your word, but if we --  
46 if we have it less, then that's fine. But I think we  
47 immediate to budget for worst case scenario.

48 DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: You all  
49 know who I am. For the reporter, it's Ruby Kapsalis,  
50 Past Department President.

1 I'm losing my voice. You are probably glad.  
2 Anyway, Madam Department President, we are  
3 paying \$18,000 -- budgeting \$18,000 for our auditor.  
4 And do you know why we are paying the auditor \$18,000?  
5 Because of a bunch of errors that we are making in our  
6 financial system but that hopefully will change with the  
7 new personnel that is present. But, you know, there  
8 is -- we used to pay \$8,000, \$10,000, but that was when  
9 we weren't presenting an auditor with a -- our books  
10 that had so many errors. An auditor makes -- I don't  
11 know -- \$100 an hour, and when that auditor has to go  
12 around finding where these mistakes are, guess what?  
13 The American Legion Auxiliary is paying for him to do  
14 that.

15 I'd rather our \$13 dollar an hour bookkeeper or  
16 whatever he makes, he finds the errors. Less errors  
17 means less money for the auditor. And there is where  
18 I think is a good place to start reducing get it down to  
19 \$10,000.

20 (Applause.)

21 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Is there any  
22 further discussion?

23 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Madam  
24 President, Ruby is absolutely correct. I believe that  
25 we really could do better, as far as hiring another  
26 auditor. Right now, of course, this year we are stuck  
27 with this because we have already approved the contract  
28 with him; however, most of his fees are strictly due to  
29 the errors that have been made in the past by the  
30 bookkeeper. He charges us per journal entry, and we had  
31 a number of them over the past couple of years. Now, we  
32 have had to do a lot of cleanup this past year, and,  
33 granted, I wasn't real thrilled about having to pay him,  
34 but we did have to get it cleaned up.

35 I don't believe that those will be -- I promise  
36 you, even though I'm not here -- okay? -- you will find  
37 me. I know somebody will know where I am. But  
38 I promise you that the department office will be more  
39 diligent in how our funds are accounted for, where they  
40 are placed, not misplaced, not held in an account that  
41 it shouldn't be held in. And those of you that don't  
42 know or understand, we have had those issues in the  
43 past. We have, and I fully believe that we will not  
44 have them again that way.

45 But you do have to start looking at having  
46 a different auditor. Our Constitution and Bylaws,  
47 I believe, says it has to be an CPA. He does charge us  
48 an extraordinary amount because he is a CPA. Again, you  
49 are in San Francisco. That is a lot like Chicago and  
50 Illinois. They think they are in a separate state.

1           But the financial community -- actually, with  
2 the professional businesses -- do charge a multitude of  
3 amounts of money that is not exactly the same as in all  
4 other areas as far as the greater state of California;  
5 so I would suggest that you start looking at that.  
6 I don't think that we can really deplete that amount  
7 this year, but I think you need to look at that for the  
8 following years.  
9           (Applause.)  
10           DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: Thank  
11 you.  
12           LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Thank  
13 you.  
14           Hearing no further discussion, all in favor of  
15 accepting the budget with the change that was made,  
16 please say aye.  
17           ALL PRESENT: Aye.  
18           LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Opposed?  
19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.  
20           LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Please  
21 say no. Yeah, please say no.  
22           Oh, well. It is going to be an interesting  
23 year next year, ladies.  
24           But thank you very much. It has passed, and  
25 your budget is being accepted.  
26           Thank you.  
27           (Applause.)  
28           DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Thank you,  
29 ladies.  
30           DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
31 Madam President, may I proceed with my supplemental  
32 report?  
33           DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT FERCHO: Sure. Yes,  
34 you may.  
35           DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
36 I would like to introduce the Finance committee once  
37 more and our advisors.  
38           I would like to introduce our Finance committee  
39 once more and our advisors.  
40           Senior Member of Finance Susie Tozier.  
41           (Applause.)  
42           DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
43 Junior Member of Finance Norma Billings.  
44           (Applause.)  
45           DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
46 Our wonderful advisors, Pat Sweeney.  
47           (Applause.)  
48           DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
49 It's supposed to be on this page.  
50           And Linda Workman.

1 (Applause.)

2 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
3 Without these ladies, we could not have done as good  
4 a job as we hope we have done for you in the last three  
5 years.

6 It has been a very busy second half of this  
7 year. The committee has reviewed quarterly investment  
8 accounts, bank accounts, and general ledger accounts.  
9 The Department Secretary and Bookkeeper have worked hard  
10 to transfer from an old accounting system to an easier,  
11 updated accounting system. This has made both the audit  
12 and the budget process easier. Hopefully, next year  
13 will be even easier.

14 It has been an honor to serve as the Finance  
15 Committee Chairman. I have had the best members to work  
16 with in Susie and Norma, and the best advisors in Kat  
17 and Linda. They have been available at all times for  
18 questions -- questions, advice, and just to listen to me  
19 talk things out.

20 I would like to give a very special thank you  
21 to our Department Secretary Doris and our Bookkeeper  
22 Gary. Without the help of these two people, this  
23 chairman would not have been able to complete the work  
24 of our Finance committee.

25 It has been an honor to serve the Department of  
26 California as a member of the Finance committee for  
27 this -- for the last two -- three years and as chairman  
28 for this year.

29 I thank you, Madam President, and members of  
30 the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of California,  
31 for their support.

32 I wish your Finance committee for next year the  
33 very best, and I know these ladies will continue to make  
34 the Department of California a fiscally sound  
35 organization.

36 Madam President, this concludes my supplemental  
37 report.

38 (Applause.)

39 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
40 Madam President, if we may have a moment of personal  
41 privilege to approach you to present a gift.

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You may.

43 DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DIEBEL:  
44 This is from the Finance committee. The code was read  
45 for you.

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Do you have the  
47 report of the Advisory committee, Ms. Advisory Chairman?

48 The next will be our Distinguished Guest  
49 Chairman.

50 (Music played.)

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ADVISORY REPORT

DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: Madam Department President, on behalf of your Advisory -- Madam Department President, on behalf of your Advisory Committee, it has been a pleasure and a joy serving for you and with you throughout the year. We have been well lubricated.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Lubricated? What a word.

DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: The Department Commander provided that little adjective there for us, so -- but anyway, we are happy. Thank you for your trust that you have put into us, and we hope -- oh, we drink -- drink to your success, Madam Department President.

(Applause.)

DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CHAIRMAN KAPSALIS: And that concludes my report.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Thank you. Thank you.

Linda Workman, the Distinguished Guest Chairman, District 26, Past Department President.

(Music played.)

DISTINGUISHED GUEST REPORT

DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN:

Madam President and delegates, it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve the Department of California again this year as your Distinguished Guest Chairman.

Our year started out with a beautiful installation. Of course, there was a very long aisle, which was like a racetrack trying to get back for the next group to be escorted, but beautiful all the same.

The duties of this chairmanship are so much fun that if you love being a hostess in track shoes, this is the chairmanship for you.

My first duty of this year was to assist Madam President with the cocktail party at the National Convention. One drink, hurry up, get on the bus. Well, because California is always so close to the convention center, this is a practice that we are going to look into in the future. This should be a time when the California delegation can get together and have some fun. But with the logistics and timing at National Convention, this practice really makes this more of an obligation instead of a party. And the members of California really are better at doing the party thing.

My second duty was to assist with invitations and hosting at the DEC. What a pleasure it was to

1 entertain our Western Division National Vice President  
2 Darlene McLaughlin and act as mistress of ceremonies at  
3 the banquet, where the most fabulous entertainment  
4 I think I have ever seen was performed.

5 And that brings us to this weekend, where  
6 I have had the honor of escorting our guests to this  
7 convention stage -- or racing them to the stage in some  
8 cases -- and assisting our president with her many  
9 invitations to various functions and, again, being able  
10 to act as the hostess at the banquet, where you will be  
11 entertained again by some fabulous entertainers. I hope  
12 that you are planning to attend, as it sounds like a  
13 great evening for all.

14 I would be remiss if I did not thank our  
15 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal, Zana and Molly, for being  
16 such a great team that they are.

17 Thank you, girls.

18 (Applause.)

19 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Now,  
20 normally I would leave you with a few words of wisdom to  
21 ponder. I thought about this, and, with the music  
22 theme, I was going to sing. But Madam President only  
23 designated one door to enter and leave by, and, with my  
24 voice, the mass exodus would prove to be very harmful to  
25 this delegation. And I'm really sorry. I am really  
26 bummed because I think you would have loved my favorite  
27 song. I don't know how to sing it as well as my very  
28 good friend Susie Hooker, who is a pro, may I add, but  
29 "I like big butts and I cannot lie." Oh, wait a minute.  
30 That's not very appropriate.

31 So I will leave you with this:

32 Dance like no one is looking.

33 Sing like no one can hear.

34 Love like you have never been hurt before.

35 Live like there is nothing to fear.

36 Always remember that we stand together and work  
37 together. We must raise our voices in praise and song  
38 together for all that we do to assist our veterans, our  
39 children, our community, and our country.

40 Madam President, thank you for the honor of  
41 allowing me to serve as your Distinguished Guest  
42 Chairman this year. It has truly been a pleasure.

43 (Applause.)

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: I want to thank  
45 you likewise because you have done a good job for me.

46 Thank you.

47 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: And if  
48 I may, Madam President, while we are here, I would like  
49 to put in a little plug here.

50 As you know, I have been given the awesome



1 opportunity of being the campaign manager for  
2 Nancy Brown Park, for National President for 2013-2014  
3 campaign committee.  
4 Diane DeLashmit has graciously accepted the  
5 appointment of area team coordinator. Am I a smart  
6 cookie or what?  
7 As you may have seen in your convention packet,  
8 there is a letter from me about fundraising activities  
9 and what a great opportunity you all have here this  
10 weekend because we have buckets that are available for  
11 you to make your first donation and show your full  
12 support for our candidate, Nancy Brown Park. Everyone  
13 who donates will receive a little sticker that says you  
14 proudly support Nancy Brown Park.  
15 Nancy and her committee thank each and every  
16 one of you because we know that this is going to be  
17 a long haul, but we know that California can do it for  
18 Nancy.  
19 I would like to ask our area coordinators to  
20 please rise, our area fundraising coordinators. Yeah.  
21 Stand up.  
22 And Madeline is our cochair.  
23 Thank you all. You will be hearing from us.  
24 (Applause.)  
25 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Make  
26 sure you read the letter and help out with your area  
27 coordinators.  
28 Thank you very, very much, Madam President.  
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: You are very, very  
30 welcome.  
31 And now I would like to invite everyone to  
32 participate in the parade that I announced. Just dance  
33 around the room in a conga dance so -- and that will be  
34 the conclusion of our session for today.  
35 And before we do that I would like to make some  
36 important -- give you some important information.  
37 I would like to ask Linda Fercho to announce the panel  
38 for the installation for tomorrow.  
39 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Your  
40 guess is as good as mine because we need to finish  
41 installation. I think everybody has gotten letters.  
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Be dressed.  
43 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FERCHO: Okay.  
44 So please come dressed, and as soon as we get done with  
45 business, blah, blah, blah, give me 20 minutes, and we  
46 will come into view.  
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right, Linda.  
48 Before we finish up, do you have any  
49 communications, Doris?  
50 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

1 Musical notes.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Musical notes.

3 I should be knowing that, musical notes.

4

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

6 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:

7 Musical notes, da, da, da, da. I'm supposed to be your  
8 keyboard. I forgot that I had to fight my granddaughter  
9 for it. I lost it.

10 Okay. The Ways and Means drawing, the  
11 envelopes with district numbers were delivered to the  
12 districts, and please stop by and put them in the  
13 baskets.

14 And they thank you very much from the Ways and  
15 Means.

16 Madam President, I would like to make  
17 a statement about our new units. I know that only three  
18 charters were presented today.

19 District 5, San Elmo, Unit 179, is one of our  
20 new units, and it was presented to the unit at the  
21 district meeting where our Madam President was our  
22 special guest of honor.

23 Of course, the Dwight C. Mitchell, Unit 201;  
24 Unit 552 from Pacific Beach; and the Brea Unit 181  
25 presented here. Unit 725 was presented at midyear, in  
26 January, at Santa Clara, District 25. We also have one  
27 in Monterey Park that is at National at this very time,  
28 District 18. They have been accepted by National. The  
29 ladies are here in our delegation. As per our  
30 Constitution and Bylaws, they may attend. They have  
31 been recognized. I do not have them, that I know of, in  
32 the system as of yesterday, but I was sent an e-mail  
33 that they were accepted at National.

34 Congratulations, ladies.

35 (Applause.)

36 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We  
37 have another unit, 637, out of District 6, that will be  
38 going Monday to National. We should have all of that  
39 paperwork in and done by National Convention so we can  
40 be recognized.

41 Thank you.

42 Hospital reps and deps -- okay. I'm going to  
43 read this verbatim.

44 Your flip-flops can be picked up in the parking  
45 lot of Building 3, DoubleTree Hotel, immediately after  
46 the close of session today. See Sandy Jacob.

47 Tomorrow's quilt winner will be drawn by  
48 Madam Department President Pilar. Please get your  
49 tickets at close of today or first thing tomorrow  
50 morning, with a thank you from Harriet Clendenin,

1 Education Chairman.  
2 Madam President, it pleases me to announce also  
3 that you have also received another \$100 donation from  
4 District 20 for your special project.  
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Oh, thank you.  
6 Thank you.  
7 (Applause.)  
8 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: All  
9 right. I still have a person who needs two tickets to  
10 the banquet. There are no longer any tickets available  
11 for the banquet; so if a district has some for sale,  
12 please see me, and I will get you in contact with this  
13 person.  
14 Okay. I was a little late on these. What  
15 else?  
16 All tickets for the Convention commission  
17 baskets must be deposited before 4:00 p.m. today, and  
18 the winners will be available after session.  
19 I am adding that the national parade uniform,  
20 if you are attending the national parade in Minneapolis,  
21 will be the black membership shirts and the tan pants,  
22 shirts, or shorts. Shirts can be bought in Room 8,  
23 shopping area of the Convention Center. They are  
24 available.  
25 The very last thing that I have,  
26 Madam President, is that I would like to share it's been  
27 presented to me we have Zana Chaney, who is our  
28 Sergeant-at-Arms and also District 15 President this  
29 year, her son, Glen Chaney, was recently recognized in  
30 the 30th Assembly District as Veteran of the Year.  
31 (Applause.)  
32 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY: We  
33 have some information with us that will be in the  
34 department office if any of you would like to stop by  
35 and say something about this.  
36 I believe -- Zana, 32 years?  
37 DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS CHANEY: 32 years.  
38 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:  
39 32 years?  
40 Yeah. How many years in the service?  
41 DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS CHANEY: 21 years.  
42 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:  
43 21 years in the service; so one of our fantastic  
44 veterans.  
45 (Applause.)  
46 DEPARTMENT SECRETARY/TREASURER KILKENNY:  
47 That's all my information.  
48 Okay. These were left on the Ways and Means  
49 table. Okay. The ladies that are attending the  
50 National Convention parade are asked to wear black

1 T-shirts and the poppy corsage. Okay?

2 Okay. Thank you.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: May I ask -- I was  
4 going to ask that -- okay. You know, we have a prepared  
5 parade, dancing here, but, before we do that, we have to  
6 retire the colors.

7 And so will the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal  
8 please have the color bearers for their retirement?

9 Yeah. Yes.

10 So please don't leave because we will have the  
11 parade after we retire the colors so that we can dance  
12 as long as we want. Okay?

13 Get that outfit ready because a lot of people  
14 prepared for this. Okay. Let's go. I hope they are  
15 all ready.

16 (Processional.)

17 (Singing "America the Beautiful.")

18 (Singing "Star Spangled Banner.")

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: Stay in that  
20 dancing before we exit, but then I'm closing this  
21 session. And you have to come back at 8:30 tomorrow.  
22 And for all those that will be at installation, be  
23 prepared and dressed up when you come in. All right?

24 Banquet tonight.

25 (Music played.)

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT REYES: All right. Now,  
27 we should have your music on please.

28 Okay. 9:00, not 8:30. Thank you all for --  
29 let's have the music.

30 (4:30 p.m.)

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ADJOURNMENT

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1 ) ss.  
2 COUNTY OF KERN )  
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5 I, B. Suzanne Hull, a Certified Shorthand  
6 Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate  
7 Number 13495, do hereby certify that the American Legion  
8 Auxiliary Convention was taken Saturday, June 25, 2011,  
9 at the time and place set forth on the first page  
10 hereof.

11 That upon the taking of the convention, the  
12 words of the American Legion Auxiliary members were  
13 written down by me in stenotypy and thereafter  
14 transcribed by computer under my supervision; that the  
15 foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the  
16 testimony given by the American Legion Auxiliary  
17 members.

18 I further certify that I am neither counsel for  
19 nor in any way related to any party to said action, nor  
20 in any way interested in the result or outcome thereof.

21 Dated this 7th day of July, 2011, at  
22 Bakersfield, California.

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25 B. Suzanne Hull, CSR No. 13495  
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5 I, B. Suzanne Hull, a Certified Shorthand  
6 Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate  
7 Number 13495, do hereby certify that the American Legion  
8 Auxiliary Convention was taken Sunday, June 26, 2011, at  
9 the time and place set forth on the first page hereof.

10 That upon the taking of the convention, the  
11 words of the American Legion Auxiliary members were  
12 written down by me in stenotypy and thereafter  
13 transcribed by computer under my supervision; that the  
14 foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the  
15 testimony given by the American Legion Auxiliary  
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