

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
98th ANNUAL CONVENTION
SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME II

Reported by: Karen A. Aufdermaur, CSR No. 10919

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1 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
2 DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
3 98th ANNUAL CONVENTION
4 SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017; 8:31 A.M.
5 RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA
6

7 CALL TO ORDER
8

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: This convention
10 session is reconvened. Sharon Moore, our Department
11 Chaplain, will offer the invocation.
12

13 INVOCATION
14

15 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: Dear Heavenly Father.
16 Thank you for this meeting and for the officers and
17 chairmen. I ask that you continue to keep our president
18 in your loving arms and that we have a successful meeting
19 and election today for our future officers. In his name I
20 pray, amen.

21 ALL PRESENT: Amen.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay.

23 (Processional.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Big round of
25 applause to the pirates. So I'm going to have to get an
26 official reading on this. We're not supposed to take
27 pictures with booze in front of them, ladies. We might
28 want to hide them bottles.

29 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Yeah. Pirate's
30 life.

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, dear. I'm so
32 sorry. Man, you guys are good. And it does say rap once
33 to let them sit down. The Department Secretary Ruby
34 Kapsalis will call the roll of officers, chairmen, and
35 district president, please.
36

37 ROLL CALL
38

39 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning,
40 ladies.

41 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Is it
43 Saturday?

44 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yes.

45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Department
46 President Wendy O'Brien.

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.

48 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Department Vice
49 President Loretta Marsh.

50 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: I am here.

1 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS:
2 Secretary/Treasurer Ruby Kapsalis. She's almost here.
3 NEC Susie Tozier.
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I haven't heard
5 from her so I don't know where she's at.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Chaplain Susan
7 Moore.
8 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN MOORE: I'm here.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Historian Dolly
10 Rios.
11 DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN RIOS: Here.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Parliamentarian
13 Diane DeLashmit.
14 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: (Sounds horn.)
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh, good.
16 Musician Joyce Patton.
17 DEPARTMENT MUSICIAN PATON: (Singing.)
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Sergeant-at-Arms
19 Liz Doidge.
20 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS DOIDGE: Here.
21 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Marshal Susan
22 Morgan.
23 MARSHAL MORGAN: I've got my tail.
24 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance Committee
25 Chairman Terry Mikesell.
26 FINANCE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: North.
27 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance Committee
28 Senior Member Linda Hayes.
29 SENIOR FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER HAYES: South.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Finance Committee
31 Junior Member Brenda Preston.
32 JUNIOR FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESTON: Ahoy,
33 Matey.
34 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory Chairman
35 Anita Biggs.
36 ADVISORY CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Good morning from the
37 north.
38 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory Pilar
39 Reyes.
40 ADVISORY COMMITTEE REYES: Good morning from the
41 south.
42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory LuAnn
43 Capazzi.
44 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CAPAZZI: Good morning from
45 the east.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Advisory Committee
47 Linda Fercho.
48 ADVISORY COMMITTEE FERCHO: Good morning from the
49 west is the best.
50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Past National

1 President Nancy Brown-Park.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's excused.
3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Americanism Kathy
4 Smith.
5 AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN SMITH: Good morning, Ruby.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
7 Auxiliary Emergency Fund Ellen McClurg.
8 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: Good morning.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
10 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: I'm here.
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Children & Youth
12 Kathie Martinez.
13 CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ: Good
14 morning, Ruby.
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
16 Community Service Dee Ann Graham.
17 COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN GRAHAM: Good morning.
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
19 Constitution & Bylaws Tamra Duron.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's here
21 somewhere. Tamra?
22 CONSTITUTIONS & BYLAW CHAIRMAN DURON: Here.
23 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh, she's here.
24 Convention Estella Avina.
25 CONVENTION CHAIRMAN AVINA: Still upright.
26 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Convention
27 Commission Genieca Risner.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's excused.
29 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Credentials
30 Danielle White. She's been working her little booty off
31 all morning. Distinguished Guest Linda Workman.
32 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: I'm here.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Editor Estella
34 Avina.
35 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Still upright.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Education Linda
37 Fariss.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's working out
39 at the desk.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
41 Elections Jackie Cleveland.
42 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: Good morning.
43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Girls State
44 Chairman Elissa Kirkland. She's excused.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I think she's
46 excused. I think she's left for Girls State.
47 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Got it. Girls
48 State Director Rhodona Enright.
49 GIRLS STATE DIRECTOR ENRIGHT: Are you from Girls
50 State?

1 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Yeah, yeah.
2 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Junior Activities
3 Mindy Sinclair. Mindy Sinclair.
4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's on her way.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's on her way
6 they say.
7 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Junior Conference
8 Director Ann Philcox.
9 JUNIOR CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PHILCOX: I'm here.
10 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Leadership Gloria
11 Williams.
12 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Good morning.
13 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
14 Legislative Susie Tozier.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's missing.
16 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She's doing the
17 banquet.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I think she's
19 working on the banquet so she is excused.
20 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Membership
21 Loretta Marsh.
22 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MARSH: Here.
23 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: National Security
24 Tracy Varnell.
25 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN VARNELL: The Sea
26 Horses are now limping to the finish line.
27 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Past President
28 Parley Anita Biggs.
29 PPP CHAIRMAN BIGGS: Good morning, Ruby.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
31 Poppy Kim Vincent.
32 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Present.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Public relations
34 Jennifer Bieger.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's excused.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Resolutions
37 Madeline Lee.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's here I
39 think.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Rules Glenda
41 Schultz.
42 CONVENTION RULES CHAIRMAN SCHULTZ: Present.
43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Veterans Affairs &
44 Rehabilitation Joan Cannon.
45 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Present.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ways & Means Jean
47 Cooley-Desmeules.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's out there
49 working.
50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Excuse me?

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's working out
2 there.
3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. District
4 Presidents. District 1, Marialice Canclini.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's absent.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 2 Judy
7 Henderson.
8 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: Present.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 3 Lola
10 Ramey.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 4 Geri
13 Fitzpatrick.
14 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK: Here.
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 5 Sandy
16 Paxton.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 6 Glenda
19 Schultz. District 7 --
20 DISTRICT 6: Aloha.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: How about -- do
22 it, girls. Do it.
23 DISTRICT 6: My Wendy lies over the ocean. My
24 Wendy lies over the sea. And when this convention is
25 over, please send back my Wendy to me.
26 (Applause.)
27 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
28 District 7 Linda Harmon.
29 DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT HARMON: Aloha.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Aloha. District 8
31 Tammy Manini.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 9 Dolly
34 Rios.
35 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: Here.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 10 Liz
37 Parshal.
38 DISTRICT 10: Good morning, Madam President.
39 Anchors away.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
41 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 11 Marcia
42 Munroe.
43 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT MUNROE: Present.
44 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 12 Ann
45 Kelley.
46 DISTRICT 12: (Inaudible) Wishing Wendy smooth
47 sailing to the finish line.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you. Good
49 morning.
50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 13 CeCe

1 Harvey.
2 DISTRICT 13: Good morning, Madam President.
3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 14 Gloria
4 Sinopoli.
5 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT SINOPOLI: Good morning,
6 Ruby.
7 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
8 District 15 Zana Chaney.
9 DISTRICT 15: Good morning.
10 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 16 Terry
11 Oclaray.
12 DISTRICT 16: Good morning, Captain Wendy. The
13 Sweet 16 coastal breeze is still heading for the final
14 port of call.
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
16 (Applause.)
17 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 17 Rachel
18 Wang-Yee.
19 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT WANG-YEE: Good morning,
20 Ruby.
21 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning,
22 Rachel. District 18 Gail Pouliot.
23 DISTRICT 18: Sailing, sailing from sea to
24 shining sea. District 18 is here to say aloha Captain
25 Wendy. Sailing, sailing over the deep blue sea to help
26 our vets continually from sea to shining sea.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 19 Becky
29 Bullard.
30 DISTRICT 19: Good morning, President Wendy.
31 Cruising the coast still homeward down.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 20 Nancy
34 Heinisch.
35 DISTRICT 20: Ahoy, Madam President, cruise ship
36 District 20 has all hands on deck and down the port.
37 Clear skies and smooth sailing ahead.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning,
39 ladies.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 21 Susan
41 Romero.
42 DISTRICT 21: Good morning, Captain Wendy. Our
43 ship has sailed from the USS Riverside. We're here to
44 rock.
45 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 22 Donna
47 Smith.
48 DISTRICT 22: Good morning, Madam President.
49 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 23
50 Patricia Patrick.

1 DISTRICT 23: Good morning, Madam President. The
2 23rd District USS Mohammed Ali has declared you a
3 knockout. Thank you for sailing with us.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 24
7 Deloris Artis.
8 DISTRICT 24: Good morning, Madam President. We
9 love, Wendy. Oh, yes, it's true. And now we thank you
10 for all you do, but time is all but through and now we
11 must say adieu to you and you and you and you.
12 (Applause.)
13 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning,
14 ladies.
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 25 Maria
16 Granado.
17 DISTRICT 25: See Turtles worked our membership,
18 (inaudible) has kept us right on track right from the very
19 start. Our captain gave us good advice, our first mate
20 did the same. Our foghorn kept us legal protecting our
21 good name. Good morning, Department President Wendy.
22 (Applause.)
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning,
24 ladies.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I sure will be
26 glad when that horn is gone. District 26 Louann Johnston.
27 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: Ahoy.
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 27 Vicky
29 Goodchild.
30 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT GOODCHILD: Good morning.
31 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning.
32 District 28 Karol Adams.
33 DISTRICT 28: Good morning, Madam President.
34 District 28 USS Majestic cruising on for our veterans.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 29 Carol
37 Borgman.
38 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT BORGMAN: Fireball for
39 everybody.
40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
41 Yeah, we're going to need it.
42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 30 Kim
43 Vincent.
44 DISTRICT 30 PRESIDENT VINCENT: Present.
45 ALL PRESENT: Good morning to you. Good morning
46 to you. We're all in our places with smiles on our faces,
47 good morning to you. Good morning to you. Good morning
48 good morning. Good morning to you.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Hospital Reps.

1 Fort Miley, Lorraine Sullivan.
2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Leticia O'Quinn,
4 Sacramento.
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She is excused.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Central California
7 Fresno Sandy Dowell.
8 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE DOWELL: Here.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Palo Alto Connie
10 Raya.
11 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE RAYA: Present.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Livermore Grace
13 Huston.
14 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HUSTON: Present.
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Loma Linda Jerry
16 L. Pettis.
17 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE KANKA: Here.
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Long Beach
19 Pat Alvarez.
20 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ALVAREZ: Good morning,
21 Ruby.
22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning, Pat.
23 Greater LA Earlean Paige.
24 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE PAIGE: Good morning,
25 Ruby.
26 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good morning. San
27 Diego Susie Tozier.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's working.
29 She's here.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: She's still lost
31 at sea.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, yes.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Barstow Evangeline
34 Acosta.
35 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ACOSTA: I'm here.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Chula Vista Lois
37 Cornish.
38 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE CORNISH: I'm here
39 instead of there.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Fresno Veterans
41 Rosalie Taylor.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Lancaster Linda
44 Hayes.
45 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HAYES: Present.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Redding Vets Home
47 Terry Mikesell.
48 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE MIKESELL: I'm still in
49 the north.
50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Ventura, Madeline

1 Lee.
2 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE LEE: Still here.
3 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: West LA, Ruth
4 Hackney.
5 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HACKNEY: Here.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And Yountville
7 Peggy Grabski.
8 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Absent.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That concludes
10 your roll call, Madam President.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
12 much, Ruby. I know you had a rough night last night, you
13 and the girls. We will resume the Department Chairmen's
14 reports, so first up will be Tracy Varnell Fercho for
15 National Security.
16 And then Estella Avina, if you could give your
17 Editor's Report. And if we could have Joan Cannon and
18 Ellen McClurg ready to give their reports, please. And
19 hopefully you ladies have notified everyone who is getting
20 an award to be up front to receive their awards so we can
21 snap to this day, get this day going.
22
23 NATIONAL SECURITY CONVENTION REPORT
24
25 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN VARNELL: Good
26 morning, everyone.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Good morning.
28 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN VARNELL: This old Sea
29 Horse is limping now. We're kind of tired. Before I get
30 started, where are all my Sea Horses? Where are all my
31 Sea Horses? This one is lumpy. Some of them are a little
32 lumpy, but that's okay. It's first thing in the morning,
33 what do you expect?
34 Good morning. The Convention Committee on
35 National Security met on June 23rd, 2013 in the Raincross
36 Room A at 11:02 a.m. You will find the statistical
37 information on page 55 of the Book of Reports.
38 Yvonne Wright-Scott was appointed secretary, Unit
39 125, District 16. Mindy Sinclair offered prayer, Unit
40 247, District 18, and Sandra Marsteller was appointed
41 Sergeant-At-Arms, Unit 377, District 18. A total of 18
42 delegates answered roll call and there were four visitors.
43 There was no code changes, no recommendations and
44 no resolutions. All the awards except for first place
45 were handed out and a list has been given to the
46 Department Office. In our meeting it was just more of an
47 open forum where people were just kind of talking about
48 different ideas and things to do for National Security and
49 come up with some good ideas. It was over and adjourned
50 at 11:55. That concludes my report.

1 Madam President, may I continue with my
2 supplemental?

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

4 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN VARNELL: Thank you.

5 The Department of California is very fortunate to have a
6 lot of military bases. I would venture to say we have
7 more than other states. We have so many enormous
8 opportunities to interact with military families.
9 California also has a lot of potential for disasters such
10 as fire -- fires, floods, earthquakes, et cetera.

11 This year the members of the Department of
12 California prepared. As you will look at this report,
13 other than local emergencies, we were blessed not to have
14 any severe natural disasters as were experienced in other
15 states. We have several certified trained members who
16 trained in their units. Several units had the Red Cross
17 come to their post homes and demonstrate life-saving
18 techniques. The units also hosted blood drives. Our
19 Juniors actually held a membership workshop to learn more
20 about disaster preparedness at home and at school.

21 The members of California continue to present the
22 Blue Star Banners at their meetings to new members.
23 Having such a large population of military members and
24 their loved ones being deployed, they also had special
25 ceremonies. They invited the entire family to come. They
26 all received a Blue Star Banner. Following the ceremony
27 there were lunches and dinners offered.

28 We did have one unit present a Gold Star Banner
29 to a mother who had lost her son. It was a beautiful
30 ceremony giving the respect and dignity to that veteran
31 and their family well deserved. Following the
32 presentation there was a dinner in his honor.

33 At our Girls State program, they have promoted a
34 group called the Blue Star Banner Girls. This is
35 comprised of girls that have loved ones that are serving.
36 It is a great opportunity for these girls to share their
37 feelings with others that truly understand. They all
38 received a Blue Star Banner along with a pin.

39 This Chairman was not advised of any MIA remains
40 being found and returned this year, but we do have a
41 beautiful ceremony that's done every year during the
42 POW/MIA Remembrance Week. At this ceremony a
43 representative from the POW/MIA organization always does a
44 presentation on the remains that have been found. They
45 have who they are and they will be returned to their loved
46 ones.

47 One unit did a beautiful POW/MIA remembrance
48 table. It was dedicated to a World War II pilot who has
49 never been found. The entire family was invited to share
50 their stories and take pictures with their loved one.

1 California has several ways that they have honored members
2 coming home and deploying. Service members coming home
3 and deploying. California American Legion Riders go out
4 in mass to meet and greet soldiers that are coming home or
5 deploying. And sometimes, unfortunately, they are called
6 to escort servicemen who have given the ultimate sacrifice
7 to their country. They have a calling tree, and it
8 doesn't matter what time day or night, if they get the
9 call, they all meet to ride.

10 Several units reported also greeting soldiers and
11 giving welcome back home packs filled with socks,
12 underwear, toilets -- can I say underwear? Toilets, snack
13 bars, fruit, candies and water to get them through when
14 they actually get back home. Many soldiers have nothing
15 except what they have on and in their duffle bag. When
16 they get back to bases sometimes in the middle of the
17 night, there is nothing open for them to get a snack or
18 water or anything, so these backpacks are greatly
19 appreciated.

20 Units reported working with other post families
21 offering barbecues, to serve in events such as welcoming
22 home soldiers. They also did the same for those who were
23 deploying. They make sure that they have membership
24 tables at all of these events so they can talk about who
25 we are and what we do to help them and their families.
26 During these conversations they mention that they will be
27 shipping off -- if they mention they'll be shipping off to
28 the location, we are prepared to tell them about the
29 benefits of joining and being able to transfer when they
30 get started, when they get settled in their new area.

31 Units reported that they found out about soldiers
32 deploying and seeking out those families involved.
33 Support networks of family readiness groups and to offer
34 while their loved one is deployed. These ladies offer to
35 baby sit so that the moms can go to school at night or the
36 dads, take care of their animals if they're gone or
37 anything that happens, help that loved one who is at home
38 to feel that there is someone out there who still cares.

39 Coupon clipping is huge. I mean huge in
40 California. We had clipping over \$895,483.50. They have
41 been sent to commissaries all over the world. One unit
42 felt very special when they received notes and thank yous
43 from the Netherlands and also from South Korea.

44 Units reported that they donated to local food
45 pantries where they can go on exclusive days reserved for
46 them to get help to get the food they don't have. The
47 ROTC program is very active in California with 27 units
48 participating and 84 members volunteering over 597 hours
49 and donating over 2,810 towards the program.

50 Madam President, this concludes my report. Can I

1 go on with my first place awards?

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

3 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN VARNELL: Great.

4 Thank you. I did send out my notes yesterday, but I don't
5 see them, so -- well, they're way over there. Come over
6 here.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You can come over.
8 Ladies, when you're standing waiting, you can come by the
9 flags.

10 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN VARNELL: Okay. So
11 this certificate is presented to -- for the unit -- First
12 Place Unit National Security Supplemental goes to Trish
13 Boyd in 684, District 27.

14 (Applause.)

15 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN VARNELL: This unit --
16 I mean this award goes for -- the Best District
17 Supplemental goes to Becky Bullard, District 19.

18 (Applause.)

19 NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN VARNELL: Thank you
20 very much. And all other awards were given out at my
21 meeting. And this was an honor, Wendy. Thank you so, so
22 much. Thank you. It was fun being a Sea Horse this year.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.
24 I think you did an outstanding job. Don't you, ladies?

25 (Applause.)

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. We will now
27 hear from -- okay. Let's hear from Ellen McClurg, and
28 then we were going to have Estella.

29 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Here I am.

30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Thank you,
31 Estella.

32 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Well, that will wake
33 you up this morning.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yeah.

35 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Okay. Are we good?

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: We're good.

37 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: We're good.

38
39 EDITOR CONVENTION REPORT

40
41 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: All right. As you know
42 we voted last year not to participate in articles in the
43 Legionnaire for 2017. We have voted to check on other
44 avenues to lower the cost. After DEC per the Department
45 Commander, I was to call the Adjutant to see why the high
46 cost for the Auxiliary part of the Legionnaire. The call
47 didn't really do anything for us. The answers to my
48 questions were your postage, your postage, you don't pay
49 for any printing. Not true. After a conversation with
50 the previous adjunct, we pay for every printing for every

1 article in the newspaper.

2 Now once again we are in a standstill. I have
3 reached out for suggestions and received some interesting
4 ones, as you can imagine. That wasn't nice. That's okay.
5 Anyway, I had I came across one of my papers from Dave
6 Levee when he was the editor. And it says here you have
7 two pages in every issue and at -- and at no cost to the
8 Auxiliary. If you do not want to have a copy in the
9 issue, please let me know 15 days prior to, blah, blah.
10 But it said -- get to the part where it says -- okay.
11 This one I knew because I read for what we paid for it was
12 pretty much everything, every submission, every printing,
13 every mailing and everything.

14 So it continues to be bottom line our mail, our
15 postage. That is what is so high. And, you know, we
16 do -- I don't know whether you want this in a vote. Do we
17 continue to just look at finding a cheaper way to do it.
18 Do we just find a way to do something in our own office in
19 membership. Because I did get a card from somebody
20 actually who came up and gave me her card and said that
21 she does her thing for her unit in the whole -- I guess
22 the whole post and she does her own newsletters and stuff
23 and she would be more than happy to come forward and see
24 if we want to do something through her. So I thought that
25 was interesting.

26 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: So are we at a
27 standstill?

28 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Oh, I'm sorry. Go like
29 this. Oh, seriously, you can't hear me? I'm sorry.
30 That's the voice that I use for the boys I take care of.
31 I'm sorry.

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hold on just a
33 moment.

34 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: All right, Linda. Now
35 we have to hear Linda.

36 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Linda
37 Workman. My question is do we pay for -- if we have a
38 dual Legionnaire and Auxiliary member, do we pay for that
39 postage? Because we should only be paying for the ones
40 that don't have a Legionnaire in the household.

41 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: But because we have
42 articles in there, they're making us pay for that postage.
43 Not the whole total, I would imagine, but part of.

44 Ruby, is that the way it comes in when you get
45 the invoices? When they submit an invoice, do they --
46 we're not paying for all the postage in that mailing. We
47 just have our portion.

48 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: So we only
49 pay for those who are our single Auxiliary members with no
50 Legionnaire in the family; correct?

1 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam Department
2 President, since we don't have a firm answer to the -- to
3 resolve the problem, I say we continue the resolution of
4 doing without a paper until such time as we can come up
5 with some better information --
6 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Second.
7 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: -- to decide what
8 we're going to do. And I so move.
9 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Second.
10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There is a
11 motion on the floor to continue with the resolution, to
12 not be involved in the Legionnaire, to continue looking
13 for better avenues to get our word out to our members.
14 Any discussion? Oh, until DEC. Oh, I'm sorry. She did
15 not say that. So that is without the DEC. Until we find
16 something.
17 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Harriet, where are you?
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Discussion,
19 please.
20 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Oh, no discussion.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Is there
22 any other discussion?
23 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I think
24 what Estella wants me to talk to you about is the cost of
25 printing the newspaper. Eight pages black and white or
26 color is minimal. It would cost us about \$600 an issue.
27 The biggest expense would be the mailing, and going
28 through the mailing house would cost a minimum of \$4,000
29 per issue. Okay. And that is taking into consideration,
30 and this is just for an Auxiliary newspaper, it's just
31 taking into consideration 25 percent of the Auxiliary
32 members don't have access to Internet and would not -- and
33 would want a hard copy. Okay. So that's just 25 percent
34 of our membership and it would cost us that much.
35 So I agree. I believe we should continue and
36 figure out all avenues.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The Chair
38 recognizes Anita Biggs.
39 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Thank you,
40 Harriet, for stepping aside so I can talk. No, I was just
41 talking to our treasurer and, you know, we are assessed a
42 dollar per member for our newsletter, our newspaper and
43 that's 20 -- however members we have, 21,000 at least. So
44 what Harriet was just stating is less than what we had
45 been paying. So to me it's -- you know, you said 4,000 an
46 issue. We don't have to have an issue a month. We can do
47 it quarterly. You know, that's 16,000. So we have to
48 think about what we've been paying versus what we haven't
49 been paying and haven't been receiving, which is zero last
50 year, and that the money is still being assessed to us

1 through membership to do this. So we need to come up
2 with -- to me, we need to come up with a solution.

3 I'm not against the motion because we do -- but
4 we need to come up with something sooner than later. So
5 that's all I have to say.

6 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Wendy?
7 Terry Mikesell, District 2. In 2014-'15 we paid
8 \$13,712.94. In 2015-'16, we paid \$22,816.19. So the
9 problem is communicating with the Legion on how much it
10 will actually cost us. And we did receive one issue last
11 year.

12 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: And it wasn't -- also
13 another problem we have, and someone may want to get to,
14 is the fact that a lot of us that have husbands or sons,
15 somebody else, a Legionnaire in the home, when it comes to
16 our -- the issue that has our articles, we get two. How
17 many of us can we get two to cop out -- yeah, opt out, opt
18 out and decide not to get the paper through the mail. Get
19 online. It's online. Whenever we have articles, it's on
20 the Legion website, the articles, and you can download and
21 read them or whatever. But it makes no sense to get two
22 newspapers when we do our articles. And if you have two
23 Auxiliary members in the home, sometimes they'll send you
24 three which is another reason that we need to kind of --
25 we're trying to get away where we can go down the line and
26 see how many of us have husbands, sons, or whatever that
27 are Legionnaires that get a newspaper at the same time we
28 will get a newspaper. Because we don't need two.

29 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Madam
30 President.

31 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Go ahead. Sorry.

32 DISTRICT 18 DELEGATE QUECARPRINI: Good morning,
33 ladies, Madam President. Susie Quecarprini, District 18,
34 Unit 830. My recommendation would be for those that have
35 email, whether they have spouses or not is just like
36 anything else. You opt for that. That would save a lot
37 of money. For those that choose to still have hard copies
38 and/or for those that do not have the Internet, those
39 should be the issues that we do pay for. But that would
40 be my recommendation to offset some of the costs and/or --
41 thank you. You're giving me the -- thank you. That was
42 just my recommendation because I would be willing for
43 myself, even though my husband is not a Legionnaire
44 because he did not serve, I would still opt for my
45 information to be sent through the Internet because that's
46 the way it is in my world. Right?

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes. Thank you.

48 DISTRICT 18 DELEGATE QUECARPRINI: And even in my
49 mom's world, she has Internet and so, you know,
50 92-year-old woman Odette can do it, anyone else can do it.

1 But anyway, to keep the story short, thank you for
2 listening, ladies. I appreciate it.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
4 much. Linda Workman.
5 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: In the old
6 days it used to be that the household got one paper. If
7 you had a Legionnaire, it was shared between the Auxiliary
8 member. They used to look at the mailing list and sort it
9 out and it went one to each household. So if they're
10 doing two or three to households, then that's where our
11 problem lies.
12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Terry Mikesell.
13 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: May I
14 please respond?
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.
16 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: Okay. The
17 problem that we're having is getting a hard number on the
18 Legion on what the costs will be. We did speak with the
19 adjunct, so at this time it's really difficult for us to
20 get -- give you a cost. We can give you estimates on what
21 we think, you know, but we just can't get a number --
22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.
23 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: -- at this
24 point.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Terry Mikesell.
26 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Terry
27 Mikesell, District 2. I call for the question.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Now to vote
29 to stop debate. Any discussion?
30 (No response.)
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
32 favor.
33 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed?
35 (No response.)
36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
37 Now we're going to call for the vote which is to continue
38 with the resolution, as we voted on last convention, to
39 continue looking for the best avenue to for the newspaper;
40 right? Did I say that right? Okay. All those in favor?
41 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed?
43 (No response.)
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
45 Thank you.
46 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Thank you very much.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
48 much, ladies.
49 (Applause.)
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Now we'll go to

1 Ellen McClurg for her report.

2
3 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND CONVENTION REPORT

4
5 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: Good morning, Madam
6 President. Good morning, Past Presidents and ladies. On
7 my report for AEF, I was absent on Thursday so, Harriet
8 Clendenin, thank you very much for filling in for me. And
9 I had a -- let's see. We met or they met in the Raincross
10 B room and the reports can be found on page 47 of the Book
11 of Reports.

12 Karen Munch from Unit 56, District 16 was
13 Secretary, Judy Gomez, Unit 277 offered prayer. She's
14 from District 29. And Connie Raya from District 28 filled
15 in as the Sergeant-at-Arms. Total people that attended
16 this meeting was 21 and there were three visitors.

17 The code was read and accepted as it was prepared
18 to them. There was no changes. The meeting came to
19 finish at 12:45 a.m.

20 Madam President, may I go on with my
21 supplemental?

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

23 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: Thank you. Thank you for
24 the opportunity to be the Department of California AEF
25 Chairman for 2016-2017. Out of 30 districts only 18 sent
26 in their reports for the end year. Districts received
27 certificates of appreciation for reporting 100 percent
28 were District 6, District 20, District 24 and 29 which I
29 received those yesterday when I got here.

30 I -- my one of my main concerns is I don't
31 understand why the units aren't reporting to the
32 districts. We seem to have a problem with this. It seems
33 like every year at midyear and during when our reports are
34 due, which makes it difficult for a Department Chairmen to
35 be able to compile her reports correctly. We need some
36 answer on this and maybe we get back to our units to find
37 out why. Or maybe we need to do a little more training
38 with them on this.

39 This concludes my report, and may I continue,
40 Madam President, with my awards to the districts?

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

42 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: Thank you. District 16,
43 Jackie Thomas, Unit 482 First Place Supplemental.

44 (Applause.)

45 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: Genevieve Eastman of
46 District 21, First Place certificate.

47 (Applause.)

48 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: District 24, Lisa Gold,
49 Unit 43, First Place Supplemental.

50 (Applause.)

1 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: District 29, Angie
2 Castillo, Unit 77, First Place Supplemental.
3 (Applause.)

4 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: Madam President, thank you
5 again for the appointment of the AEF Chairman.

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
7 Ellen.

8 AEF CHAIRMAN McCLURG: Thank you.
9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Our VA&R
11 Chairman, Joan Cannon, is going to allow us to hear all of
12 the fabulous things we've done for veterans. Before Joan
13 starts, can I have Kim Vincent, Gloria Williams and -- and
14 the Convention Commission.

15
16 VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION CONVENTION REPORT
17

18 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Madam President, the
19 Convention Committee for Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
20 met on June 22nd, 2017 in Raincross B of the Riverside
21 Convention Center in Riverside, California. The
22 statistical report of this chairman appears on page 58 of
23 the Book of Reports.

24 Serving as secretary was Pat Alvarez, District
25 29. Cyd Kintzer, District 25, offered prayer, and Deborah
26 Straight, District 11, was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A
27 total of 24 district delegates answered roll call. There
28 were 16 visitors.

29 The committee agreed on the following report.
30 The code was read and the following code changes was voted
31 on. Page 68, Awards, Rules. Number 5 code now reads:
32 "Outstanding qualities your candidate may have should be
33 stated in the entry."

34 The proposed change reads: "Outstanding
35 qualities your candidate may have demonstrated should be
36 stated in the entry."

37 The proposed change added the word
38 "demonstrated." By the direction of the committee I move
39 to make the code change.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There is a
41 motion -- oh, that's right. That's right. Okay. Page 68
42 the code reads: "Outstanding" -- where is the old code?
43 "Outstanding qualities your candidate may have should be
44 stated in the entry."

45 The change would be the proposed -- which one is
46 it? "Outstanding qualities your candidate may have
47 demonstrated should be stated in the entry."

48 Okay. Any discussion?
49 (No response.)

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hearing none, all

1 those in favor, say aye.

2 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed?

4 (No response.)

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.

6 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: There were several
7 housekeeping changes required that will be given to the
8 Department Secretary/Treasurer. There were no resolutions
9 or recommendations. Presentation of citations and awards
10 for 100 percent reporting, second and third place were
11 handed out. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

12 Madam Department President Wendy, may I continue
13 with my supplemental?

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

15 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: I am proud to report that
16 the Department of California's Auxiliary members did an
17 outstanding job serving our veterans, military, and their
18 families. I wish to express my gratitude to all,
19 especially the District and Unit Chairman and Hospital
20 Representatives and Deputies for their leadership.

21 I have decided that we know how to throw a party
22 from the many parties we have had throughout our year.
23 From July 4th through Memorial Day we planned and executed
24 parties to support our mission. Many breakfasts, lunches,
25 and dinners -- sorry -- were served to our Legion Family,
26 veterans, military, their families and community members.

27 Some fundraisers were to celebrate a special
28 holiday, and others to celebrate an event or just to say
29 thank you for your service. Behind the scenes are our
30 Auxiliary members working to make each and every event
31 special. One fun party held at Halloween was a reverse
32 trick or treat. The unit's senior and junior members
33 dressed in costume providing treats to veterans. This
34 same unit put on bunny ears and delivered colored eggs and
35 treats.

36 Veterans Day is a day of service for most units
37 serving at ceremonies, parades, hosting veterans for
38 lunch, dinner, or just visiting and listening to the
39 veterans. One unit hosted a meet and greet at a local car
40 wash on Veterans Day. Each veteran or active duty
41 military was provided with a free car wash. A great way
42 to say thank you and introducing veterans and military to
43 our Legion Family, potential new members.

44 A post commander and a unit president visit their
45 local school to put on a program about Veterans Day
46 helping the units understand why we celebrate and the
47 proper respect for our flag. The Christmas season is an
48 active time for our units. We hold fundraisers for gifts
49 and our sewing and knitting clubs have been hard at work
50 creating handmade items.

1 Our hospital representatives and deputies have
2 been organizing Christmas gifts and parties at our VA
3 medical centers, veterans homes and community living
4 centers as well as some clinics. A truly joyous time for
5 those we serve and our members.

6 Our service is amazing. We honor our military
7 when they are being deployed and when they come home,
8 letting them know we are here for your families and we
9 will be here for you when you return. We support Honor
10 Flights for our veterans. We have members that took
11 classes in suicide prevention to support veterans in
12 crisis. We are excellent caregivers to our veterans,
13 cleaning, laundry, cooking, visiting, reading,
14 transportation to and from doctors' appointments and
15 shopping.

16 Auxiliary members find these activities rewarding
17 knowing their support keeps a veteran in their home. An
18 Auxiliary member facilitates writing workshops for
19 veterans. These activities help veterans heal their
20 wounds. To be able to hold the workshop, she wrote and
21 received a grant for the funds. This is just a small
22 sample of what we do to support our veteran's health,
23 happiness, and spirit. I am proud of the Department of
24 California American Legion Auxiliary members. We can do
25 it all.

26 Our hospital reps and depts are on the front lines
27 at our VA hospitals, veterans homes, clinics and community
28 living. The amount of hours and service they provide to
29 the Department of Veterans Affairs is remarkable.

30 With your permission, Madam Department President
31 Wendy, may I have the hospital representatives and
32 deputies escorted to the front of the room?

33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Will the
34 Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please escort our hospital
35 reps and depts to the front of the room.

36 (Processional.)

37 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: From the Medical Center of
38 San Francisco: Lorraine Sullivan, Rep. June Jackson,
39 Deputy. Tammy Manini, Deputy.

40 From Sierra Nevada Healthcare System: Bonnie
41 Chavoya, Deputy. From Northern VA Health System: Letecia
42 O'Quinn, Mather. She's a representative.

43 Barbara Dailey, Redding OPC. Kelli Germeraad --
44 I practiced and I still didn't get it right -- Deputy,
45 Fairfield OPC.

46 From VA Medical Center Fresno: Sandra Dowell,
47 Representative. Gloria Sinopoli, Deputy. Kae Orcutt,
48 Deputy. Ruth Finney, Deputy. Marjorie Boyer, Deputy,
49 Tulare OPC.

50 From VA Palo Alto: Connie Raya, Deputy. Pat

1 Klang, Deputy. Sandy Jacob, Representative. Arlene
2 Muller, Deputy. Michelle Soares, Deputy.
3 From Livermore: Grace Huston, Representative.
4 Ruth Briggs, Deputy.
5 From San Diego Healthcare System: Susie Tozier,
6 Representative. Irma Manthei, Deputy. Barbara Love,
7 Deputy.
8 Lois Cornish, Veterans Home Chula Vista and poppy
9 production manager.
10 (Applause.)
11 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: From Loma Linda VA
12 Healthcare System: Mavis Kanka, Representative. Arlene
13 Barton, Deputy.
14 From Long Beach Healthcare System, which is now
15 Tibor Rubin: Pat Alvarez, Representative and production
16 poppy manager. Becky Bullard, Deputy. Stephanie Janji,
17 Deputy. Tamara Bell, Deputy Village of Cabrillo. Debbie
18 Butler, Deputy Whittier/Santa Fe Springs.
19 From Los Angeles Healthcare System: Earlean
20 Paige, Representative. Susie Johansen, Deputy.
21 (Applause.)
22 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Vi Walquist, Deputy.
23 Patricia Jackson-Kelly, Deputy LA outpatient clinic. From
24 West LA Ambulatory Care Center: Diana Williams, Deputy.
25 Kathy Harris Richards, Deputy. Pam Hicks, Deputy Downtown
26 Los Angeles. Mary Chaba, Deputy from -- I'm going --
27 thank you.
28 Ambulatory Care Center East Los Angeles: Julie
29 Strange, Deputy. From Bakersfield OPC: Dee Ann Graham,
30 Deputy. From Santa Maria Community-based OPC: Dorothy
31 Davis, Deputy. From California Veterans Homes Fresno:
32 Rosalie Taylor.
33 (Applause.)
34 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Lancaster: Linda Hayes,
35 Representative. Redding: Terry Mikesell.
36 (Applause.)
37 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Ventura: Madeline Lee.
38 (Applause.)
39 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: West LA: Ruth Hackney.
40 Yountville: Peggy Grabski, Representative. Melanie
41 Taylor, Deputy and poppy production manager. These are
42 your hospital representatives and deputies.
43 (Applause.)
44 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Barstow.
45 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Barstow: Angelina
46 Accosta.
47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: These ladies do
48 such a great, great job so we want to give them another
49 great big round of applause.
50 (Applause.)

1 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: And just for a point, if
2 you would like, I would like for all of the reps and deps
3 over by the flags. I would like a picture so I can
4 remember what you all look like because it's so great and
5 I'm so proud of everything you've all done. It's amazing.

6 And I also have a certificate. I don't know, is
7 Pat Klang here? Okay. Well, I know she's moving and
8 she's retiring or moved in June I think, but I wanted to
9 give her a certificate of presentation for her dedicated
10 service, so I'll make sure she receives this in the mail.

11 (Applause.)

12 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Thank you for this, Madam
13 President. Thank you. Madam Department President Wendy,
14 this concludes my report. May I continue with the first
15 place awards?

16 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

17 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Okay. First Place Best
18 Hospital Program, Pat Alvarez from Tibor Rubin VA Medical
19 Center.

20 (Applause.)

21 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Most Volunteer Hours,
22 Norma Wallace, Fresno VA Medical Center, District 14.

23 (Applause.)

24 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: And just so everybody
25 knows she has 2,080 hours. It's like a job. Okay. First
26 Place District Supplemental, Cyd Kintzer.

27 (Applause.)

28 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: District 25. First Place
29 Unit Supplemental, Leilani Squire, Unit 43, District 14.
30 This is a young lady that gives writing workshops not only
31 to vets, but also to their families.

32 (Applause.)

33 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Leilani's report was
34 forwarded to National for further judging.

35 This concludes my report. Thank you, Madam
36 Department President Wendy, for sharing your special year
37 with me.

38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you. Joan
39 did an outstanding job.

40 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: And we have Pat Alvarez
41 and the ladies are going to come up. And Grace Huston.
42 They would like to present you something.

43 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE ALVAREZ: I would like to
44 represent our Grace Huston because she's a little nervous
45 so I get to help her. I'm doing my mentoring again.

46 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE HUSTON: And this is for
47 you. And you will recognize it. There you go. Perfect.
48 It's from all of us.

49 (Applause.)

50 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Thank you, Representatives

1 and Deputies. And I would like a picture with you all if
2 you don't mind. Thank you all for your time.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
4 Joan, and all our reps and depts.

5 (Applause.)

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. We'll now
7 have Gloria Williams, if you can come up on the stage.
8 Kim Vincent, come on the stage and be ready to give your
9 report. Kim Vincent for Poppies.

10
11 LEADERSHIP CONVENTION REPORT

12
13 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Good morning. The
14 convention on Leadership met on June 23rd, 2017 in the
15 Raincross Room C at the Riverside Convention Center here
16 in Riverside. The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m. The
17 statistical report of this chairman appears on page 53 of
18 the Book of Reports.

19 Ellen Wallace, District 23, was appointed
20 secretary. C.J. Reyes, District 19, offered prayer. And
21 CeCe Harvey, District 13, was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.
22 Meeting opened according to ritual. A total of 22
23 district delegates answered roll call. There were nine
24 visitors present. The code was read and there were no
25 code changes. Awards for 100 percent reporting went to
26 the following districts: 1, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,
27 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29. A
28 certificate of appreciation and participation and the
29 second place awards were given in this committee.

30 The meeting convened of -- excuse me. It
31 adjourned at 10:00 a.m. And this concludes the committee
32 report. And, Madam President, may I continue with my
33 supplemental and first place awards?

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

35 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Captain Wendy,
36 your Professors and Crew have successfully proven their
37 loyalty and shown their enthusiasm and commitment by
38 bringing Leadership training to the units and the
39 districts. Serving our veterans from sea to shining sea
40 while keeping your ship on course was Annapolis Academy's
41 goal. Twenty-two districts reported on Leadership
42 activities and 32 took and passed the National Certified
43 Leadership Test.

44 We chartered our sails to train and inform as
45 many members as possible about the Auxiliary's great
46 programs and how can they incorporate a strategic plan
47 that will allow each member a chance to become
48 knowledgeable leaders in their districts and units.

49 Two department workshops were held in California.
50 The first workshop was held in southern California at the

1 Hollywood Post 43 on October 22nd, 2016 hosted by
2 Districts 23 and 24. There were 58 members present. The
3 second was held in northern California at Post 521,
4 District 6 along with a junior workshop held in a separate
5 room led by Department Junior Activities Chairman.

6 Thank you, Captain Wendy, for sharing your time
7 and expertise with the other presenters at this workshop.
8 There were 60 seniors and seven juniors in attendance.
9 Both workshops provided excellent presenters whom gave
10 instruction about the basic programs: protocol, flag
11 etiquette, parliamentary procedures and civility training.

12 Members worked in groups to settle situations.
13 Fun games such as the Family Feud were a hit with the
14 participants. They answered questions regarding
15 Membership and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation programs.
16 Complimentary gifts were given to the participants.
17 Members reported the National and Department bulletins
18 were educational and interesting. Sixteen districts
19 reported holding training for their members and 40 units
20 held training.

21 Several districts reported that many of their
22 units held workshops that focused on officers' duties,
23 what makes a good leader, and end of the year reporting.
24 Twelve units have reported having a mentor program. Six
25 units have been reconstructed and saved from losing their
26 charters through the efforts of their districts. Twenty
27 districts held Leadership workshops. Several reported
28 holding small workshops at their unit meetings about the
29 Auxiliary programs and Constitution & Bylaws and civility
30 training and goodwill nurturing. Leadership is about
31 working together as a team for our veterans and their
32 families. The Department of California Annapolis Academy
33 is proud of the accomplishments of its Auxiliary members.

34 Madam President, may I proceed with my first
35 place awards?

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

37 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: I sent out notes
38 yesterday. District 16? District 25?

39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: They're here.

40 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Here I am.

41 LEADERSHIP CHAIRMAN WILLIAMS: Here you are. I
42 didn't see you over there. First Place Unit Supplemental
43 is awarded to Linda Fercho, Chairman.

44 (Applause.)

45 LEADERSHIP CHAIR WILLIAMS: This is for you.
46 First Place Supplemental award goes to Tamra Duron.

47 (Applause.)

48 LEADERSHIP CHAIR WILLIAMS: District 25. Madam
49 President Wendy, thank you for this appointment. It has
50 been a wonderful experience.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.
2 You did an outstanding job. Thank you.

3 LEADERSHIP CHAIR WILLIAMS: Thank you.

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: And I do want to
5 call Tammy Bell up to the podium. She's going to help me
6 with a presentation.

7 HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you, Madam
8 President. Past Department President Susie Tozier, could
9 you please come over here? As you ladies all know, with
10 everyone's kind help when we were under Past Department
11 President Susie's tenure, we applied and were given a
12 grant from National for the advancement center at Cabrillo
13 for computers, music, all kinds of stuff. So on behalf of
14 U.S. Vets Cabrillo, I would like to present this trophy to
15 Past President Susie Tozier.

16 (Applause.)

17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Thank you,
18 ladies.

19 HOSPITAL REP BELL: Also, ladies, when we go to
20 National Convention in Reno, we will be up on the stage
21 with a presentation about receiving grants and we will
22 then give Past President Sharon Conatser a similar trophy
23 on behalf of the women's advanced program. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Kim, we're
26 going to have to wait. I apologize. We need to take a
27 break because we have to have our elections at 10:00 a.m.
28 We'll have a 15-minute recess so the District Presidents
29 can take roll call of their delegates and be ready to
30 report their voting strength.

31 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Wendy?

32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Hello. Who's
33 talking?

34 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Can I say one thing,
35 ladies?

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Stop just a
37 minute.

38 DEPARTMENT EDITOR AVINA: Ladies, we have a rule
39 you don't go out, you don't come back in after we start
40 the voting. The Pages, God love these Juniors, we tell
41 them not to let you in or out. So please don't be rude to
42 them. Last year we had somebody that was very, very rude
43 and almost come to blows.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Well, can I also
45 add yesterday, ladies, they have a job to do. They've
46 been asked not to let people come and go. I guess it has
47 been a free for all over there. So please be kind. There
48 is a reason they're doing the job that they are doing.
49 Oh, yeah. That's right, humble and kind. That's right.

50 So please remember the doors will be closed at

1 10:00 a.m. and no one will be allowed to enter or leave
2 after they are closed. At this time all delegates should
3 be with their districts.

4 (Recess from 9:42 a.m. to 9:58 a.m.)

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies, the
6 doors will now be closed. This session will come to
7 order. Will everyone please be seated in their respective
8 districts. Please remember that only delegates and
9 alternates taking the place of the delegate will be
10 allowed to be in the room during elections.

11 Will the Sergeant-at-Arms and Marshal please see
12 everybody that is in the lobby knows that the doors -- too
13 late. They don't get a chance. We will now proceed. No
14 one will be permitted to enter or leave except in an
15 emergency until the Chair states the elections are
16 concluded.

17 We will now have the report of the elections
18 chairman, Jackie Cleveland, followed by the reading of the
19 election rules by Glenda Schultz. Jackie Cleveland? Here
20 she comes.

21
22 ELECTIONS CONVENTION REPORT
23

24 ELECTIONS CHAIRMAN CLEVELAND: Good morning. I
25 will read the election rules. Number 25: Election of the
26 Department Officers, Junior Member of Finance, National
27 Candidate, Department Delegates and Alternates to the
28 National Convention shall be held on Saturday morning,
29 June 24th, 2017. The doors of the convention shall --
30 shall be closed during the entire election procedure and
31 no one shall leave or enter the hall until the Chair
32 states the election is concluded. The exception to this
33 shall be that in an emergency a member may leave, and if
34 her absence accepts the voting strength, the District
35 President shall immediately notify the presiding officer.

36 Number 27: When there is but one nominee for all
37 department officers and but one nominee for Junior Member
38 of Finance, the nominees shall be elected viva voce.
39 (Article V, Section 3 Department Constitution). Upon roll
40 call, the District Presidents shall report the number of
41 units partially or wholly represented by newly elected
42 delegates or alternates present in the delegation at the
43 time of the roll call. This is to determine that there is
44 a quorum of units present at the time of election.

45 Excuse me. Number 28: When there is more than
46 one nominee for the Department Officers, Junior Member of
47 Finance or endorsement for National Office, election shall
48 be by written ballot. The District President shall, when
49 they are instructed by the Chair, take a roll call of
50 their respective delegation to ascertain the total voting

1 strength of their District for the election reporting the
2 same to Chair.

3 Number 29: When there are three or more nominees
4 for office, Junior Member of Finance, or endorsement for
5 National Office, unless one nominee receives a majority
6 vote on the first ballot, the nominee receiving the lowest
7 number of votes shall be automatically dropped before
8 proceeding with the next ballot.

9 Number 30: When there is a candidate or
10 candidates for an endorsement to a National Office a
11 majority vote shall be by ballot. (Constitution Article
12 V, Section 13.)

13 Number 31: Each District President Or District
14 Member of the Election Committee shall distribute and
15 elect the votes cast by the District delegation and
16 deliver them to the Department Chairman of the Elections.

17 Number 32: Department Officers, Chairman,
18 Committee Member, and Past Department President shall vote
19 with their respective district.

20 Number 33: Each delegate shall be entitled to
21 one vote. The vote of an absent unit delegate not
22 represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority
23 of the delegates from the Unit. When two delegates
24 represent three votes, the Chairman of the Unit delegation
25 shall cast the third vote.

26 Number 34: A majority of all votes cast shall
27 elect except that in the election of national delegates or
28 alternates of plurality shall elect.

29 Number 35: These Convention rules may be amended
30 during the Convention by a two-thirds vote.

31 Number 36: Robert's Rules of Order, Newly
32 Revised shall be the parliamentary authority on all points
33 not covered by these rules, the Department Constitution &
34 Bylaws and Convention mandates.

35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you, Jackie.
36 Will the District Presidents please proceed to the
37 microphone and line up in numerical order. Oh, yes.

38 Danielle White, can you please come to the
39 podium. Where are you, Danielle? Here she is. Here she
40 is. Okay. Okay. Can you give us the latest figures of
41 the vote, please?

42 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN WHITE: Of the strength?

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Of the strength,
44 yeah. How many are registered, all of that.

45 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN WHITE: We have 523.
46 Divided by two is 261.

47 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Say that again so
48 everyone can hear you or closer to the mic.

49 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN WHITE: 522. Right. That's
50 the number of delegates after the changes. So it will

1 make it 261 for half to elect.
2 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: 262.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Sergeant-at-Arms
4 and Marshal, are you by the doors? Okay. Ladies, I know
5 you need to be with your districts, but if you could
6 please let your district president know you're here and
7 then be by the doors. We can't have people coming and
8 going, please.
9 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN WHITE: After the first one,
10 so it's 262 for the strength.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: 262 for the
12 strength. Thank you. To elect. Yes, 262 is the
13 majority. Okay. Ready? The secretary will call the roll
14 of the districts. Thank you, Jackie.
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Is this yours?
16 All right. Are we ready? We're going to get 100 percent;
17 right? All right. Let's go for it, ladies. All right.
18 District Number 1.
19 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: One.
20 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Did you say
21 one, Terry?
22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes, ma'am.
23 She's right there.
24 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Well, that didn't
25 last long. Okay. We will try again.
26 DISTRICT 1 DOOLITTLE: I was under the
27 understanding that I am one of the visitors.
28 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: You're a
29 delegate.
30 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Could you please
31 come to the microphone because we can't hear you?
32 DISTRICT 1 DOOLITTLE: Yes, ma'am.
33 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I'm not sure what
34 you said when you were over there. Could you repeat it?
35 DISTRICT 1 DOOLITTLE: I understood that I was
36 only a visitor because I am not properly registered.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, okay. She's
38 not properly registered.
39 DISTRICT 1 DOOLITTLE: Yeah, I have a badge on.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Are you
41 Joan Dolittle? Okay. Then you have three votes.
42 DISTRICT 1 DOOLITTLE: All right.
43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. You have
44 three votes.
45 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay.
46 You're okay.
47 DISTRICT 1 DOOLITTLE: I can go sit down.
48 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Now we're
49 going to start from scratch again. I hope we don't have
50 to do this too often. District 2.

1 DISTRICT 2 PRESIDENT HENDERSON: Two.
2 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Great. District
3 3, zero. District 4.
4 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK: Six.
5 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Six. Thank you.
6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.
7 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 5.
8 PAST NAT'L EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TAYLOR: Four.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I've got seven.
10 PAST NAT'L EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TAYLOR: Unit 165
11 left, Ruby.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. Thank you.
13 District 6.
14 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: District 6 has 19.
15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right. There
16 we go.
17 (Applause.)
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 8, zero.
19 District 9.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: What happened to
21 7?
22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Are you in a
24 hurry?
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Well, no. They
26 kind of put it at the bottom of the page. So that was my
27 error. I am terribly sorry. District 7, seven.
28 DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT HARMON: 7, seven.
29 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right. Great.
30 Let me find my place now. Now District 8 is zero.
31 District 9 is five.
32 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: I've got six.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Would you come to
34 the stage, please? District 10.
35 DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT WOODY: Seven.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good girl.
37 (Applause.)
38 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 11.
39 DISTRICT 11 PRESIDENT MUNROE: Ten.
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good girl.
41 District 12.
42 DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT KELLEY: Ten.
43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good girl.
44 District 13.
45 DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT McLEOD: 13.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right. Now
47 we're cooking. District 14.
48 DISTRICT 14 PRESIDENT SINOPOLI: 19.
49 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
50 District 15.

1 DISTRICT 15 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT CLENDENIN: I'm
2 a bad girl. Actually Brenda Preston, our Junior Member of
3 Finance, was not counted as a delegate in her own right so
4 they should have 11, not ten. Do I have to go over?
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you do.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 16.
7 DISTRICT 16 PRESIDENT OCLARAY: 28.
8 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right. Look
9 at it here. We're cooking. District 17.
10 DISTRICT 17 PRESIDENT WANG-YEE: Three.
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
12 Where's 17? Oh, down here. Okay. They got me going all
13 over this page here. All right. Three. All right.
14 District 18.
15 DISTRICT 18 PRESIDENT POULIOT: 37.
16 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
17 District 19.
18 DISTRICT 19 PRESIDENT RAYNER: 25.
19 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
20 District 20.
21 DISTRICT 20 PRESIDENT HEINISCH: 20.
22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
23 District 21.
24 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT ROMERO: 46.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
26 District 22.
27 DISTRICT 22 PRESIDENT SMITH: 43.
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right. All
29 right. Twenty-three.
30 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT PATRICK: 20.
31 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh-oh.
32 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT PATRICK: Unit 639 left.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Unit 639 left, so
34 how many is it?
35 DISTRICT 23 PRESIDENT PATRICK: 20.
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 20. Okay. Thank
37 you, Patricia.
38 (Applause.)
39 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 24.
40 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ARTIS: Nine.
41 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
42 District 25.
43 DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT GRANADO: 59.
44 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
45 District 26.
46 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: We have eight.
47 Elissa Kirkland is not here. She's in her own right.
48 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Who's not here?
49 Elissa Kirkland.
50 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: Girls State

1 Chairman.
2 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That is correct.
3 District 27.
4 DISTRICT 27 PRESIDENT GOODCHILD: 17.
5 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right. Now
6 please, Karol, I know you'll get it right. District 28.
7 DISTRICT 28 PRESIDENT ADAMS: 19.
8 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
9 District 29.
10 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT BORGMAN: 52.
11 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh-oh.
12 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT BORGMAN: Do I have to go
13 over there?
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yeah, you have to
15 go over there.
16 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 30.
17 DISTRICT 30 PRESIDENT VINCENT: Nine.
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right. That's
19 not bad, two out of 30.
20 DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT SCHULTZ: Ruby, I have a
21 correction for Exhibit 6. We missed one in their own
22 right so we should have 20.
23 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 6 has 20.
24 District 6 has 20. Okay. District 6 is 20.
25 (Applause.)
26 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
27 District 9.
28 DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT RIOS: I was right. It's
29 six.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You got six. All
31 right. Okay. We only have one left, District 29. Do you
32 want me to entertain you?
33 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Where is
34 Madeline? Madeline, get up and entertain us.
35 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Come on, Madeline,
36 get up and entertain us. Do I hear a dog barking?
37 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. That's
38 good.
39 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Sing,
40 Madeline.
41 (Singing.)
42 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Thank you,
43 Madeline.
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.
45 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Are they
46 ready?
47 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We still are
48 counting.
49 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Okay.
50 Madeline is going to entertain us some more.

1 (Singing.)
2 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. District
3 29.
4 DISTRICT 29 PRESIDENT BORGMAN: 54.
5 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: 54. That
6 concludes your roll call.
7 (Applause.)
8 DEPARTMENT 15: What was 15's count?
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 15, you
10 said 11.
11 DEPARTMENT 15: Correct.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: All right.
13 (Singing.)
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I'm trying to
15 count, ladies. Give me a break.
16 (Singing.)
17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Are we
18 ready?
19 PERSONAL PAGE SANCHEZ: Now we have 95 bottles of
20 beer instead of delegates.
21 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We should have a
22 computer out here.
23 DELEGATE BEA: Madam Department President.
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, ma'am.
25 DELEGATE BEA: Madam Department President and
26 Madam Department Secretary, as an interesting point of
27 information while we're on elections, for those of you who
28 have not yet met my granddaughter who is a unit member,
29 duly elected delegate, she is here from Australia. She is
30 21. She is in her first year of -- first year and a half
31 of four years of college or they call it university for
32 studying to be a primary school teacher. Now very
33 interestingly she is an Australian citizen. This is the
34 only time an Australian citizen will be able to vote in an
35 American election.
36 (Applause.)
37 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you, Bea,
38 for that.
39 CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN WHITE: And I thought I was
40 perfect. 515 is your total voting and half is 257 and a
41 half, so it will take 258 to elect. 258.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
43 much. We're now opening the ratification for the election
44 of officers. There is -- okay. Of the districts. There
45 is but one nominee for the office of Department President,
46 Loretta Marsh. All of those in favor of electing Loretta
47 Marsh for the Department President, signify by saying aye.
48 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed say no.
50 (No response.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You have elected
2 Loretta Marsh for the Department President for 2017-2018.
3 Congratulations, Loretta.
4 (Applause.)
5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There is
6 but one nominee for the office of Department Vice
7 President, Joan Cannon. All those in favor of electing
8 Joan Cannon for the Department Vice President, please say
9 aye.
10 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Those opposed say
12 no.
13 (No response.)
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You have elected
15 Joan Cannon for the Department Vice President for the year
16 2017-'18. Congratulations, Joan.
17 (Applause.)
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There is but one
19 nominee for the office of Junior Member of Finance, Martha
20 Romero. All those -- Romano. It does say that. I'm
21 sorry. All those in favor of electing Martha Romero --
22 Romano. There's an N, not an R. For the Junior Member of
23 Finance, please say aye.
24 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
25 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed say no.
26 (No response.)
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You have elected
28 Martha Romano as Junior Member of Finance 2017-'18.
29 Congratulations, Martha. I do know your name. Thank you.
30 (Applause.)
31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Now we will
32 have the ratification of the district --
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Officers.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: -- officers.
35 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 1, Pat
36 Lindley. District 2, Pat Carey. District 3, Lola Ramey.
37 District 4, Jean Edson. District 5, Sandy Paxton.
38 District 6, Glenda Schultz. District 7, Joanne Shope.
39 District 8, Tammy Manini. District 9, Helaina Dolly Rios.
40 District 10, Elizabeth Parshal. District 11, Toni Domdon.
41 District 11 -- 12, Lisa Stewart. District 13, CeCe
42 Harvey. District 14, Gloria Jean Sinopoli. District 15,
43 Zana Chaney. District 16, Stephanie Reid. District 17,
44 Yoko Parsons-Crooks. District 18, Betty Ramos. District
45 19, Becky Bullard. District 20, Nancy Heinisch.
46 (Applause.)
47 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 21 Cathy
48 McCoy.
49 (Applause.)
50 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 22,

1 Maureen Giacalone. Is that -- yeah, okay. District 23,
2 Valerie Hill.
3 (Applause.)
4 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 24,
5 Deloris Artis.
6 (Applause.)
7 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 25,
8 Patricia Galatioto.
9 (Applause.)
10 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 26,
11 Louann Johnston. District 27, Norma Billings.
12 (Applause.)
13 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 28, Robin
14 Falkenberg. District 29, Carol Borgman.
15 (Applause.)
16 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 30, Kim
17 Vincent.
18 (Applause.)
19 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I move the
20 ratification of the election of the District Presidents.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There's a motion
22 to ratify the District Presidents. Any discussion?
23 (No response.)
24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
25 favor, say aye.
26 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
28 (No response.)
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
30 Go ahead and do the First Vice Presidents.
31 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
32 District 1, Maribeth Yew. District 2, Nancy Johnson.
33 District 3, Wendy Jacobs. District 4, Sherry Morehouse.
34 District 5, Norma Harrison. District 6, Ann Sanchez.
35 District 7, Melise Monroe. District 8, Kathleen Sullivan.
36 District 9, Rosemarie Marino. District 10, Susan Marsh.
37 District 11, Deborah Straight. District 12, Victoria
38 Ferreira-Allen.
39 (Applause.)
40 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That was kind of a
41 dead, dead hooray. District 13, Cheri Whitaker. District
42 14, Geni Lefler. Okay. Whatever. Sorry. District 15,
43 Dee Ann Graham. District 16, Glenda Powell.
44 (Applause.)
45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 17,
46 Rachel Yee. District 18, Patricia Martinez.
47 (Applause.)
48 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 19, Jean
49 Cooley-Desmeules.
50 (Applause.)

1 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 20,
2 Mahala Beery.
3 (Applause.)
4 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 21, Linda
5 Olson. District 22, Susie Tozier.
6 (Applause.)
7 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 23,
8 Tampeka Snoball.
9 (Applause.)
10 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 24 --
11 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ARTIS: Ruby, I do now have
12 a first vice. First name Carla, C-A-R-L-A.
13 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Good.
14 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ARTIS: Last name Shirer,
15 S-H-I-R-E-R.
16 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay.
17 DISTRICT 24 PRESIDENT ARTIS: From Unit 43.
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
19 District 24, Carla Shirer.
20 (Applause.)
21 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 25, Cyd
22 Kintzer.
23 (Applause.)
24 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 26,
25 Arlene Mueller. District 27, Joyce Curwick. District 28,
26 Molly Smith.
27 (Applause.)
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 29, Jean
29 Sudbeck.
30 (Applause.)
31 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And District 30,
32 Pat Sinibaldi.
33 (Applause.)
34 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And I move the
35 ratification of the --
36 DISTRICT 20 DELEGATE: For District 20, First
37 Vice -- for First Vice it's Patty Buchanan.
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She's the second
39 Vice.
40 DISTRICT 20 DELEGATE: Second Vice is Sherry
41 Whitaker.
42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: So we have it
43 flipped around.
44 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. I see what
45 you're saying.
46 DISTRICT 20 DELEGATE: Thank you.
47 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: I'll switch these
48 two. Okay. Thank you very much. I move the ratification
49 for the election of the District First Vice Presidents.
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: There's a motion

1 on the floor to ratify the District First Vice Presidents
2 for 2017-'18. Any discussion?
3 (No response.)
4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
5 favor, say aye.
6 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
8 (No response.)
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
10 Can you go ahead and do the District Second Vice
11 Presidents, please, Ruby.
12 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 1,
13 Marialice Canclini. District 2, Anita Ray. District 3,
14 Beverly Hiles. District 4, Judy Bennett. District 5
15 Wenonah Angier. District 6 -- oh, this is a good one.
16 Martha Zendajas.
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Zendajas.
18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Zendajas.
19 District 7, Bonnie Bradbury. District 8 is Teresa
20 Canonizado. District 8 -- no, I did that. District 9 is
21 Henrrietta Fontes. District 10 is Leonarda Estigoy.
22 District 11 is Grace Huston. District 12, Bonnie Romero.
23 District 13 is Cheri Whitaker. District 14 is Debbie
24 Hurtado. District 15 is Barbara Goodflow. District 16 is
25 Tammy Welcoming. District 17, Elas Garcia. District 18
26 is Noreen Takesaco.
27 (Applause.)
28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District --
29 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Great name.
30 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 19 is
31 Rita Lambert.
32 (Applause.)
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 20 is Ela
34 Estrada.
35 (Applause.)
36 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 21 is
37 Kathy Newman.
38 (Applause.)
39 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 22 is
40 June Coatney.
41 (Applause.)
42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 23 is
43 Patricia Davis.
44 (Applause.)
45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 24 is
46 Martha Romero.
47 (Applause.)
48 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 25 is
49 Judy Samples.
50 (Applause.)

1 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 26 is
2 Leslie Tozzini. District 27 is Rosemarie Todd. District
3 28 is Denise Clay.
4 (Applause.)
5 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 29 is Kay
6 Beenbee.
7 (Applause.)
8 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And District 30 is
9 blank. No Second Vice for District 30. I move the
10 ratification of the election of these officers.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There's a
12 motion to ratify the District Second Vice Presidents. Any
13 questions?
14 (No response.)
15 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
16 favor, say aye.
17 ALL PRESENT: Aye.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.
19 (No response.)
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.
21 We will now proceed to the election of delegates and
22 alternates to the National election. The Secretary will
23 now read the nominees for the delegates to National
24 Convention.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 6, Glenda
26 Schultz. District 7, Linda Harmon. District 10, Gwen
27 Woody. District 11, Joan Cannon. District 12, Kathy
28 Smith. District 13, Angel Van Glider. District 14,
29 Gloria Jean Sinopoli. District 15, Dee Ann Graham.
30 District 16, Darlene Duncan. District 18, Pamela Dixon
31 Hicks. District 19, Jean Cooley-Desmeules. District 20,
32 Nancy Heinisch. District 21 is Susan Romero. And I
33 believe there is a change there. You'll need to come to
34 the microphone.
35 DISTRICT 21 PRESIDENT ROMERO: Susan Romero,
36 District 21 District President. I would like to remove
37 myself as delegate and go as a guest.
38 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Thank you.
39 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
40 much.
41 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: That means we're
42 still three short, ladies. District 23, Anita Biggs.
43 District 24, Deloris Artis. District 25, Donna Scott.
44 District 26, Linda Workman. District 27, LuAnn Capazzi,
45 and District 29, Carol Borgman. We have -- so we need to
46 elect 14 -- what? No, no, no. We need to elect 14
47 delegates and we've got 15 on the -- wait a minute. Is
48 that what we -- 15.
49 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: You have
50 18.

1 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We've got 17
2 delegates listed on the list.

3 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: You've got
4 18.

5 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: One, two, three,
6 four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14,
7 15, 16, 17. We have 18 delegates on the list and we are
8 going to elect 15 delegates. You cannot elect no more
9 than 15 names on the page that you're going to -- the
10 ballot that you're going to receive and you are to delete
11 District 21, Susan Romero, from the ballot because she is
12 on the ballot. So her name will be crossed off. Is
13 everyone clear on that? Okay.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies, you
15 should have gotten a packet with the ballots in it.
16 Please count your ballots and make sure that you have an
17 accurate count.

18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. All the
19 District Presidents have their ballots; right?

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: They're counting
21 to make sure they have an accurate number of ballots.

22 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. You're
23 electing 15 delegates and you're crossing off Susan
24 Romero, District 21. You should have the number of
25 ballots that your district is allocated.

26 DELEGATE: Just a clarification, are we supposed
27 to check it off, mark an X, or put yes or no?

28 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Madam President,
29 do you have any preference on how you want these ballots
30 marked and --

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Marked.
32 Yes, a checkmark or an X by the person that you are
33 electing. There should be 15 marks on your page; right?
34 Excuse me. Excuse me. Clarification.

35 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: We are electing 15
36 delegates. That does not mean you have to put 15 marks on
37 there, but do not put more than 15 or that ballot will be
38 scratched. So any -- you can vote for one, you can vote
39 for ten, but no more than 15.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Can we have a
41 ballot for the Parliamentarian, please, District 25?

42 And, Ruby, do you have a ballot?

43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Yes.

44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you. Okay.
45 Ladies, has everyone voted that wants to vote? Okay.
46 Yes.

47 DELEGATE: May we have the delegates stand up so
48 we can put a name to a face? I don't expect to get them
49 all together, but if they could stand it it would be very
50 helpful.

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes. Yes, we can.
2 If they're here. Okay. So, ladies, if everyone can sit
3 down, please. It's been asked that we have the delegates
4 stand up so we can put a name to the face or a face to the
5 name. Okay. Ruby, go ahead.
6 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Excuse me.
7 District 6, Glenda Schultz. District 7, Linda Harmon.
8 District 10, Gwen Woody is not here. District 11 is Joan
9 Cannon. District 12 is Kathy Smith. District 13 is Angel
10 Van Glider who is not here. District 14 is Gloria Jean
11 Sinopoli. District 15 is Dee Ann Graham. District 16 is
12 Darlene Duncan.
13 (Applause.)
14 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 18,
15 Pamela Dixon Hicks. District 19, Jean Cooley-Desmeules.
16 District 20, Nancy Heinisch. District 23, Anita Biggs.
17 District 24, Deloris Artis. District 25, Donna Scott.
18 District 26, Linda Workman. District 27 LuAnn Capazzi,
19 and District 29, Carol Borgman.
20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies,
21 we've got a few more minutes and then we're going to pick
22 up the ballots. I'd like you to fold it in half and then
23 in half again. Sorry. Each person should put their own
24 ballot in the envelope. Yes, ladies. Yes, ladies, we're
25 jumping the gun. I know it's been a long time since we
26 did this, but there's a process, so don't mess up.
27 Okay. Ladies, District Presidents, your
28 responsibility is to make sure that you have the correct
29 amount of ballots in your envelope and then you will be
30 bringing them up and dropping them off yourself with the
31 Elections Chairman. Yes. Or the Elections Committee.
32 Yes. So are we all ready?
33 DISTRICT 20 ESTES: Excuse me. Hello. Hello.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Just a second.
35 Yes, ma'am.
36 DISTRICT 20 ESTES: Bobby Estes.
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Ladies, ladies,
38 please.
39 DISTRICT 20 ESTES: Bobby Estes, Unit 507. Nancy
40 Heinisch has her district wrong. It has 2 instead of 20.
41 I don't know if that matters.
42 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: No, it does not
43 matter. Okay. We're calling them backwards; right?
44 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. All right.
45 Wait. You'll be called -- we're going to reverse order.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 30 --
47 okay.
48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: The Elections
49 Chairman and the District President come together. So who
50 are they?

1 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Not all districts
2 have Elections Chairmen.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Go ahead, Linda
4 Workman. Ladies, ladies, please.
5 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: If the
6 Elections Chairman is going to be counting ballots, make
7 sure you bring your personal items with you because you
8 will be leaving right now to count ballots.
9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Right. Okay.
10 Ladies, you guys are -- hold on just a minute. You're
11 scrunching in at the microphone, so can you wait until the
12 secretary calls your name and district, please.
13 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 17.
14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Come on. Please
15 separate so that the one with the least amount of votes is
16 going to come first.
17 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 8.
18 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: 17 is here.
19 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: They've just
20 turned it in. District 3, no one here. District 9.
21 District 1. No one. Oh, yeah. Well, there is -- one
22 minute. Oh, I'm sorry. District 10.
23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: District 10.
24 Okay. Has District 10 -- oh, I see. Thank you.
25 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 24.
26 District 12. District 13. District 4. District 7.
27 District 26.
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Wait, wait. Where
29 is District 4? Did you put yours in? She called you.
30 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK: Oh, I'm sorry.
31 I didn't hear her answer.
32 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. All right.
33 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 26.
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Geri, are you
35 taking your stuff with you to count ballots?
36 DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK: I have to go
37 count?
38 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, yes. Ladies,
39 if your district -- if your district does not have a
40 Elections Chairman, the District President has to go count
41 the ballots or assign somebody to be your Elections
42 Chairman.
43 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 26.
44 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: They
45 already did.
46 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Oh, they did.
47 District 2. District 30. District 15. District 14.
48 District 20. District 23. District 27. District 5.
49 District 6.
50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: District 5. Where

1 is District 5?
2 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Five is Melanie.
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, here she
4 comes. Here she comes.
5 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: You've got to stop
6 talking.
7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh-oh. You're
8 getting the stink eye.
9 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 6.
10 District 11.
11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: District 11.
12 Wait. Who is your Elections?
13 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: District 18.
14 District 19. District 16. District 21. District 25.
15 District 22. And roll out the band, ladies. District 29.
16 (Applause.)
17 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: 22 come on. Come
18 on.
19 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: 22, let's
20 go.
21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: It looks like we
22 have an issue. Do we have an issue? Oh-oh. Anita Biggs.
23 Anita Biggs, will you please come forward, please?
24 Pending the outcome of this -- the vote being counted,
25 these elections are finished so that we can open the doors
26 and allow people to come in the door.
27 (Applause.)
28 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Can we have
29 District 29's president and 629's members please come up.
30 679, excuse me. Ann and Zana, you can come back.
31 Okay. Ladies, it is with great honor that I
32 introduce you to a new unit in District 29.
33 (Applause.)
34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Unit 679 Richard
35 M. Nixon. Congratulations, ladies.
36 (Applause.)
37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. We're going
38 to continue with the chairmen reports. Can I have Kim
39 Vincent, the Poppy Chairman, Jennifer Bieger -- excuse
40 me -- the Public Relations Chairman.
41 Okay. Go ahead, Kim.
42
43 POPPY CONVENTION REPORT
44
45 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Greetings. The
46 Convention Committee meeting on Poppy met on Thursday,
47 June 22nd, 2017 in Raincross D Room of the Riverside
48 Convention Center in Riverside, California. The
49 statistical report of the Chair appears in the Book of
50 Reports on page 56. Ruth Hackney, District 24, was

1 appointed Secretary. Vella Myers, District 27, offered
2 prayer, and Sherry Watson, District --
3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Six.
4 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: -- 6, thank you, was
5 appointed Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 23 district
6 delegates answered roll call and there were eight visitors
7 present.

8 The code was read and the following was
9 recommended: Number 11. "The original Unit Poppy
10 Financial Report, along with the checks, shall be sent
11 immediately to the Department Office, but not later than
12 the fourth Friday of May and a copy shall be sent to the
13 Department Chairman and District Chairman. Unit and
14 District report deadlines will be determined annually by
15 the Department Chairman with enough time to adhere to
16 National's deadline. 2010."

17 If adopted the code change will read, number 11:
18 "The original Unit Poppy Financial Report, along with the
19 checks, shall be sent immediately to the Department Office
20 postmarked no later than June 1. A copy shall be sent to
21 the Department Chairman and District Chairman. Unit and
22 District report deadlines will be determined annually by
23 the Department Chairman with enough time to adhere to
24 National's deadline. 2010."

25 By direction of the committee I move to accept
26 the code change.

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. There's a
28 motion. Number 11: "The original Unit Poppy Financial
29 Report, along with the checks, shall be sent immediately
30 to the Department Office postmarked no later than June 1.
31 A copy shall be sent to the Department Chairman and
32 District Chairman. Unit and District report deadlines
33 will be determined annually by the Department Chairman
34 with enough time to adhere to National's deadline. 2010."

35 Any discussion?

36 (No response.)

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: All those in
38 favor, say aye.

39 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Opposed, no.

41 (No response.)

42 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Motion carried.

43 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Thank you. 100 percent
44 reporting certificates were given to District 4, 5, 6, 10,
45 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 27, 28, and 29. Citations were
46 awarded to units and districts. Closing prayer was given.
47 Meeting closed just before 11:00 a.m.

48 May I give my supplemental report and first place
49 awards?

50 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: You may.

1 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Thank you. In keeping
2 with Madam President's theme, "Serving Our Veterans From
3 Sea to Shining Sea," we completed the year with 23
4 district reports including 13 with 100 percent reporting.
5 Districts reported on several activities. Members
6 continue to educate other members and the public on Poppy
7 opportunities, reaching new goals and soaring to new
8 heights.

9 Department of California members were in full
10 swing during Poppy Month, May, keeping with the traditions
11 of this great organization. Units continue to use the
12 image and story of The Flanders Field Poppy to educate
13 people about the sacrifices our veterans made, helping us
14 raise awareness of the Legion Family and link us to our
15 mission in the eyes of the public. Strategic Goal No. 5.

16 Units are reportedly participating in the
17 Roadhouse Restaurant Poppy distribution and participating
18 in the Poppy Poster Contest including posters completed at
19 the Junior Conference in April. Forty-eight disabled or
20 hospitalized veterans were tasked with producing Poppies
21 under the direction of three Poppy production managers
22 across the state, reporting a total dollar amount paid of
23 \$26,490 to our veterans.

24 Members are seeking donations as well as giving
25 Poppies to raise awareness. Many opportunities to
26 increase Poppy revenue include donation request letters
27 mailed to Auxiliary and Legionnaire members, community
28 partners, and neighbors. Members solicited donations
29 around their community by setting up tables at local
30 storefronts, in restaurants, at their posts, and community
31 events. Units invited board of supervisors, city mayors
32 and councilmembers to proclaim the month of May as Poppy
33 Month to bring further awareness to the community.

34 There were many opportunities to recognize those
35 who made the ultimate sacrifice. Poppies were given to
36 those attending events such as Memorial Day ceremonies,
37 funerals of veterans, or Honor Flight World War II
38 veterans. They were given Poppies upon their return from
39 a visit to the memorial in Washington D.C. Poppies are
40 included in sympathy, birthday, and get well cards and
41 being wrapped around silverware at dinners and being tied
42 around goodie bags.

43 Several units promoted the Poppy program in
44 schools by reading the Poppy story to students and giving
45 them a copy of In Flanders Field written by Lieutenant
46 Colonel John McCrae along with a handmade Poppy. Members
47 attend patriotic programs in schools where they learn
48 about the history of the Poppy or a 4-H club member
49 creating a Poppy poster and reading In Flanders Field to
50 fellow club members. Districts hold Poppy trainings

1 within their districts to continue to raise awareness.

2 There were many opportunities for units to raise
3 awareness and educate their communities on the history of
4 the Poppy. There was a small increase in the number of
5 Poppy makers in our department. In addition to Poppy
6 orders in the Department of California, Poppy orders were
7 received from the departments of Idaho, New Mexico, and
8 Oklahoma. Unit increases are up 1,865. Total dollars
9 reportedly spent by the Department of California members
10 was \$32,811 and total volunteer hours donated was 597,441.

11 (Applause.)

12 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Units seek Poppy
13 donations through request letters sent with a Poppy and
14 Poppy Seals to community members. Oh, sorry. Sorry. Let
15 me go here.

16 Okay. And Poppy Seals to community members and
17 retailers, setting baskets full of Poppies near the Post
18 sign-in book and preparing Poppy memorial wreaths, units
19 create poster boards with the history and significance of
20 the Poppy. Corsages, center pieces and Christmas wreaths
21 are on display at posts, and distribution of Poppies and
22 bookmarkers with In Flanders Fields are given during
23 membership initiation ceremonies. Poppies are used at
24 funeral settings and in memory of deceased veterans. And
25 one member even used fresh Poppies in her wedding in
26 memory of her grandfather who passed days prior. The
27 Sunday -- they were from my unit so it was a little extra
28 special.

29 The Sunday before Memorial Day one unit reads In
30 Flanders Fields to the congregation and presents all
31 veterans and active duty service members with a poppy
32 corsage. Then they take a group picture for public
33 relations opportunities following the service.

34 Poppy donations are reportedly being used for the
35 VA&R Fund, Patient Remembrance at the VAMC for holiday
36 gifts for veterans and their families, adoption of a
37 military family, infant layettes for active duty service
38 members at two military installations, and clothes,
39 toiletries and snack items for veterans who reside at
40 assisted living homes.

41 One member wears a Poppy when she gathers with a
42 group of veterans in her line of work. Another member
43 puts a few Poppies on the local children dogs' collars
44 while sharing the Poppy story. The children leave happy
45 and shortly thereafter parents stop by and give donations
46 and thank the member for being so kind to their children.

47 A National challenge was put out to members and
48 chairmen to make and mail Poppy corsages to President
49 Donald Trump. So I never saw him wearing any on Memorial
50 Day or Poppy Day but, you know, hopefully he's learning

1 more about our organization through our efforts to educate
2 him.

3 There are endless opportunities to promote Poppy
4 revenue and raise awareness on the Memorial Flower of The
5 American Legion. This chairman is pleased to report to
6 you the wonderful activities that the Sea Flowers in
7 Department of California members have participated in
8 throughout 2016-2017.

9 One more accomplishment, and I can't remember the
10 unit name or number or district, but there is almost a
11 90-year-old member up there and her -- she had been ill
12 for the last couple of years, couldn't push Poppies. She
13 ordered -- she wanted a thousand this year, so she pushed
14 the thousand out with donations. Is that you guys? I
15 knew you guys were over there somewhere. 377 in District
16 20. And then she ordered another \$1500. Her goal was to
17 make, what, 3,000 -- \$7,000. She made 3,000 and then she
18 just finished the year with just under \$8,000. So
19 congratulations.

20 (Applause.)

21 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Happy to have her back.
22 And I know the unit is very blessed to have her. So I am
23 proud of all the accomplishments for our veterans, active
24 duty service members, and their families. Promoting pride
25 and belonging to the world's largest women patriotic
26 organization begins right here with our own units.

27 Okay. Now for my first place awards. Best
28 Overall Unit Supplemental, Judy Samples, Unit 256,
29 District 25.

30 (Applause.)

31 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Best Overall District
32 Supplemental, Dolly K. Smith from District 28.

33 (Applause.)

34 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Okay. Let's see. For
35 the Poppy displays at the back, I have already put
36 everything except for the first place awards on them, but
37 the first place for the President's theme is Michelle
38 Banks, Unit 751, District 25.

39 (Applause.)

40 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: And the Freestyle Based
41 on Creativity and Originality, Karl Ross Unit 15, District
42 11.

43 (Applause.)

44 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Okay. The President's
45 Choice. And I don't know. Do I have my Poppy production
46 managers out there? I sent notes. If you're out here,
47 Pat Alvarez, Lois Cornish.

48 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: They're counting.

49 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Can I present them their
50 awards later? These are really nice. Well, they're

1 really nice though. I wanted to -- oh, anyway. Okay.
2 I'll show you guys, but don't tell them.

3 Okay. And then the President's Choice, Madam
4 President's favorite was Michelle Banks, Designer, Unit
5 751, District 25.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I'd like to have
8 pictures of all of them.

9 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Okay. Oh, you know
10 what. I forgot to give them all the supplementals, so
11 stay over there. I'll be right down. Poppy poster
12 contest. So we did this at the Junior Conference. I know
13 that there were a lot of posters that were brought in by
14 convention, but I needed them by the district reporting so
15 I could submit to Nationals, so -- I submitted to National
16 by June 1st. So the winners for the Best Overall Class
17 III, Grades 6 and 7, District 4, Andres Cervantes.

18 (Applause.)

19 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: And they do receive a
20 \$20 check as well. Thank you, Geri. And also for Best
21 Overall Class VI, Grades 8 and 9, I have Asia Williams for
22 District 233, District 6.

23 (Applause.)

24 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Okay. And all winners
25 are posted -- will be posted right after this in the
26 Department Convention Office. Madam Department President
27 Wendy, thank you for this appointment. I have had a
28 wonderful year and I'm honored to serve you and the
29 Department of California. This concludes my report, Madam
30 President. May this Chairman approach the podium?

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

32 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Here you go. So my
33 husband and I traveled across nine countries around
34 Thanksgiving. And I was at this antique store. And I
35 love antiques. I found treasures. And I found this
36 amazing set of Poppy cups, teacups. And I purchased like
37 16. I bought them all. But so all the gift bags do have
38 one included. I broke up the set. So I do have one as
39 well so you can recall remember this year with Poppies.
40 And also -- oops, I grabbed the wrong bag. Did I give
41 somebody a bag that has Lois' note on it? Oh, it's that
42 one right there, the big one. Yes. Can you trade that
43 for that one there? Sorry.

44 Okay. So I wanted to recognize my Poppy
45 production people. And I'm sorry they're not here, but we
46 purchased some plaques for them with the department
47 emblem. Well, kind of Poppy emblem. And it says:
48 "Presented to Pat Alvarez, 2016-2017 Poppy Production
49 Manager VA Medical Center Long Beach." These three women
50 were amazing to work with, especially my two that have

1 been doing it for years. Any time I needed something,
2 they educated me. So it was an amazing experience. And
3 taking on the other states, they were able to help out,
4 step up and just do their part. So be sure to thank Lois
5 Cornish from the WAVE Clinic.

6 (Applause.)

7 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: San Diego WAVE Clinic,
8 Pat Alvarez from the VA Medical Center in Long Beach. And
9 where is she at? The Yountville Veterans Home. Thank you
10 very much.

11 (Applause.)

12 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
13 much, Kim. We appreciate all your hard work.

14 (Applause.)

15 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Oh, wait. I have one
16 more thing. I found a check for \$25 from Imperial Beach
17 California Unit 820 that never got cashed from 2014. So
18 if you'd like to rewrite an updated check. It's for the
19 Poppy donation. It just never got cashed three years ago,
20 so we took a loss. If you would like to rewrite that,
21 I'll swap you checks.

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you, Kim.

23 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Thank you.

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Now we're
25 going the hear from -- bless you. Public Relations
26 Chairman Jennifer Bieger.

27
28 PUBLIC RELATIONS CONVENTION REPORT

29
30 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: Good morning,
31 Madam President. Good morning. I guess it's good
32 afternoon now. This Chairman is happy to report that the
33 PR committee meeting was held on June 22nd, 2017 at 9:00
34 a.m. in Ballroom A of the Riverside Convention Center.
35 The statistical report for Public Relations appears on
36 page 57 of the Book of Reports.

37 During our committee meeting we had 18 delegates
38 present and two guests. The awards for second and third
39 place for best report for both district and units were
40 announced. Congrats to District 16's Marion Rocha for her
41 second place award and to District 28's Sue Baker for her
42 third place award. Also big congrats to Rose Ann Ladre of
43 Unit 170 with District 19 for her second place award and
44 Ellen Hartle of Unit 289 with District 21 for her third
45 place award.

46 Our appointed Sergeant-at-Arms was Leslie Vondra.
47 Our secretary was LuAnn Capazzi, and our Chaplain was
48 Marion Rocha. This Chairman is happy to report our
49 committee meeting went great. It was fantastic to see the
50 amazing participation for all those who attended.

1 Madam President, that concludes my committee
2 report. May I continue with my first awards and
3 supplemental report?

4 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

5 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR BIEGER: Where are my
6 Starfish? Boy, ladies, it's a good thing we're under the
7 sea because otherwise we might melt out there. Nothing
8 like having convention at 109 degrees. So sorry.

9 This year has been an exciting journey. While we
10 have been out at sea, we have been working our magic to
11 get the word out with Public Relations. The Starfish all
12 over the sea throughout the State of California have been
13 working tirelessly with their Chamber of Commerce, local
14 radio stations, local newspapers, officials, and first
15 responders. They have been posting on Facebook, Twitter,
16 Instagram, et cetera. I have to say, Madam President, I
17 cannot wait for you to read your Public Relations book.

18 I want to thank everyone who mailed me articles,
19 newspaper clippings, flyers, postcards, and most
20 importantly, their reports. With your help we will pass a
21 great PR book full of memories to our beloved Madam
22 President Wendy. She has done such a fantastic job this
23 year and this is our way to show her just how much the
24 American Legion Auxiliary promotes our mission.

25 Madam President, your theme and slogan of
26 "Serving Veterans From Sea to Shining Sea" was
27 well-received. Mission accomplished, and your voyage will
28 soon come to an end. I wish you the very best remainder
29 of your convention. It was my great honor to serve as
30 your Department Public Relations Chairman and I thank you
31 for this appointment.

32 If it's okay with you, I'd like to continue with
33 my first place awards.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

35 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: Okay.
36 Hopefully everybody got my notes. Okay. So I would like
37 to continue with the First Place for Unit goes to Sue
38 Pascoe, Unit 283, District 24.

39 (Applause.)

40 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: Okay. Sue,
41 that's a Starfish lunch bag so you'll think of us every
42 time you pack your lunch. And then the First Place for
43 Best PR report for district goes to Cindy Rogers with
44 District 25.

45 (Applause.)

46 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: And that's a
47 Starfish bag so she can go to the beach and think of us
48 too. Okay. So just to close, have a great rest of your
49 convention. If you haven't already liked our department
50 Facebook page, the address is @ALA.CaliConnection. Keep

1 up the good work in Public Relations and thank you very
2 much.

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you.

4 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: May I approach
5 you?

6 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes. Oh, my
7 goodness. Look at this. It's a photo album with a
8 compass. It's leather. Oh, my gosh. It's beautiful.
9 Stand over here. I love jewels. Oh, it's an anchor.
10 Beautiful. Thank you so much. That's great. Thank you
11 so much.

12 PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN BIEGER: It has so much
13 in it.

14 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you very
15 much. Thank you. Look at how gorgeous this is. This is
16 all the information that you sent to Jennifer to put in
17 our PR book. Didn't she do a wonderful job on this?

18 (Applause.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: And, Jennifer, I
20 thank you very much. I know also your husband had a lot
21 of issues, so I appreciate you being here and I thank you
22 for everything you've done.

23 (Applause.)

24 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you. Okay.
25 We're going to now hear from our Convention Commission.
26 Genieca Risner is not available to be with us today so we
27 are going to hear from her side kick, Anita Biggs.

28 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: And Bev Sparks.
29 She said she's going to stand up here and just go "nah,
30 nah, nah."

31 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SPARK: She didn't send
32 me a note.

33 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: I spoke to you
34 in person, young lady. That's better than a note.

35
36 CONVENTION COMMISSION CONVENTION REPORT

37
38 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We've had kind
39 of a sketchy year because our Chairman Genieca has not
40 been available to meet with the Legion Commission. So we
41 -- Bev and I, we've just been trying to wing it. As being
42 part of the Advisory, the President had been receiving
43 information -- thank you, Bev -- receiving information
44 from The American Legion with regard to our upcoming
45 conventions. So we'll give you a little report. Sorry I
46 don't have it in writing because it really -- this all
47 happened this weekend basically.

48 So the Convention Commission did meet with the
49 Advisory Committee, which the Convention Committee is me
50 and the Advisory Committee is me. She's going to get in

1 her -- I'm going to tell the truth. Along with the
2 Parliamentarian, the Department President, First Vice
3 President met with the American Legion Commander Leach and
4 Adjunct John Bart. That was on Wednesday, this past
5 Wednesday, to discuss the 2018 convention and going
6 forward. And it was determined that the department
7 American Legion is in the process of establishing a
8 convention corporation. Because in the past they've been
9 doing district corporations to put on the convention.

10 It's convoluted and we were like our heads were
11 spinning. But we want to -- they want to do something
12 that's going to be easier for all of us to communicate and
13 for future conventions.

14 Next year's Convention Commission Committee, led
15 by our esteemed Bev Sparks here, will make contact with
16 John Bart so that we can meet at the Legion's DEC upcoming
17 in August so we can get a head start to try to pull
18 everything together. They agree we need to communicate
19 better so we can understand what the real costs are that
20 are of our Auxiliary's costs. Because frankly we've been
21 paying and budgeted to pay \$2,500 and that's it for
22 conventions for the longest. And, you know, I know you're
23 looking like, you know, that's all? And that is all. And
24 they said that's all that we've been contracted to pay and
25 that is how it is.

26 The finance -- you'll hear more about the Finance
27 Committee in the upcoming budget so I won't go into that.

28 Next year's convention will be held -- 2018 will
29 be held in Sacramento.

30 (Applause.)

31 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: We are looking
32 forward to that. I know they have a location for the
33 convention, but housing is still being ironed out. Plus
34 the contract has not been signed yet, so we have to get
35 the contract.

36 2019 will be held in Ontario. That is the 100th
37 year. They did win the bid. And 18 and 25 will be
38 hosting the convention in Ontario. We don't have any
39 locations going past that date and we are going to be, of
40 course, looking for locations, you know, both houses.
41 We'll be looking for locations upcoming. And we did
42 request that we attempt to have at least five years in
43 advance notice on convention locations like we used to
44 have in the past.

45 Did you want to add anything, Beverly?

46 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT SPARK: No, no. Thank
47 you.

48 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Next time I'll
49 send you a note along with talking to you in person.

50 Thank you all so much. Thank you, Madam

1 President.

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you, ladies.
3 Thank you very much. I know it's been a struggle this
4 year with the communication, but hopefully we've bridged
5 that gap and we can get this taken care of. So thank you
6 very much.

7 Okay. Well, when we break for lunch -- yeah,
8 they may have to -- it looks like they're getting food.
9 So when you come back from lunch, we will be strolling the
10 promenade deck and visiting with each other this
11 afternoon. Please be prepared to join us with your cruise
12 wear on immediately after the stroll.

13 I would like the Finance Committee, Advisory
14 Committee, and Distinguished Guest Chairman to be on stage
15 to be ready to give their reports.

16 It is a little early, but we are out of here. So
17 we're adjourned. We are adjourned until -- excuse me. I
18 am sorry. Our distinguished Octopus needs to talk to you.

19 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: Okay. The Girls
20 State 75th Anniversary Committee selected the design for
21 jewelry submitted by Roseanne Vicky Bean, District 9, Unit
22 161. As the winner we will give Vicky a set of earrings,
23 necklace, and pin. The committee thanks all those who
24 submitted designs.

25 Dorothy Castillo, District 10, Unit 68 needs two
26 tickets for the banquet.

27 District 6 has three tickets for the banquet.
28 Glenda, see Dorothy Castillo.

29 I'm interested in being a Page for -- oh, okay.
30 All those that have sent me notes about being a Page at
31 National Convention, I will be in touch with you after I
32 get in touch with Nevada. Okay? I will email you.

33 Mention to the ladies they need to pick up their
34 books in the back. Their history books need to be picked
35 up in the back.

36 There has been a change in the banquet. The
37 banquet is now in the Ballroom A and B. Yes, in the
38 convention center.

39 Susie's Farmers, please meet at the stage
40 following the adjournment for lunch Saturday 6/24. Sue's
41 Lighthouses, Melanie's Balloon Pilots, LuAnn's Ship
42 Captains will meet for lunch Saturday at noon in the
43 Marriott Hotel restaurant.

44 Peachy Performers and Classy Penguins will meet
45 at lunch on Saturday noon break at the Marriott Room 921.

46 Bonnie's Prom Princesses and Sandy's Colonels
47 will meet in Room 415 here for lunch on Saturday. Please
48 RSVP -- well, it's a little too late to RSVP.

49 Goldie's Golden Links, Geri's Cards, Margaret's
50 Dream Catchers, and Pilar's Musicians will meet in the

1 Marriott for lunch on Saturday in Room 612.

2 A message from the Royal Turtles. Turtles of
3 Treasures, please have all your white raffle tickets and
4 green 50/50 tickets turned in by close of Saturday
5 session. But they still will be selling more.

6 All of those districts can pick up their
7 membership cards during the lunch hour break in the office
8 here behind the stage. Pardon me. Right. Well, I'm sure
9 they'll be finished here pretty soon. Well, never mind
10 about lunch. You can pick them up at the close of
11 business today, your membership cards today.

12 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: They have
13 them over at the table. If you bring them over here, I'll
14 bring them right there.

15 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: We'll do it over
16 here at the finance table.

17 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Yes.

18 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: And all of those
19 who are going to National Convention, you have packets to
20 pick up. There are deadlines that you need to adhere to
21 by the 17th of July to get your housing and everything in
22 to convention. That concludes all those things.

23 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies,
24 this session is now in recess for lunch until 1:30. Be
25 back right at 1:30, please.

26 (Lunch recess.)

27 (Time noted: 11:44 a.m.)

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1 AFTERNOON SESSION - 1:33 P.M.
2

3 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: This convention
4 session is reconvened. Would the Sergeant-at-Arms and
5 Marshal please get everyone out of their chairs and take a
6 stroll around the promenade deck to visit every person in
7 the room and to take in some fresh sea air. Up you go,
8 ladies.

9 (Parade.)

10 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies, we
11 will now hear from our Distinguished Guest Chairman, Ms.
12 Linda Workman.

13 (Applause.)
14

15 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN CONVENTION REPORT
16

17 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Madam
18 President, thank you for allowing me to act as your Social
19 Cruise Director this year. I've really missed the back of
20 the room action and I'm glad to be back there again. It
21 was an honor for me to escort you as you took the office
22 of Department President and led this department with humor
23 and grace that we have all enjoyed so very much.

24 The mid-year meeting was a little short on seats,
25 but we all seemed to work it out anyway. It was an honor
26 to assist you hosting the National President Mary Davis.
27 And I really want to thank Deloris Artis. There she is.
28 For taking my place in the south during the visit. You
29 did an outstanding job. Thank you very much.

30 I am looking forward to assisting you in hosting
31 the banquet this evening and I know that everyone will
32 have a great time. It will be bittersweet to escort you
33 from the state -- it will be bittersweet to escort you
34 from the stage on Sunday, but I'm glad that you will be
35 joining the ranks of PDP, you little winch. Okay. Yeah,
36 winch, not witch. Either way it works.

37 Okay. Okay. So now enough of the sappy stuff.
38 You guys want to hear the cruise messages; right? Well,
39 an old lady was standing on the railing of a cruise ship
40 holding onto her hat so tight as the wind was blowing. A
41 gentleman approached her and says: "Pardon me, madam. I
42 do not intend to be forward, but did you know that your
43 dress is blowing up in the wind?"

44 "Yes, I know," said the lady. I need to hold
45 onto my hat."

46 "But, madam, you must know that your privates are
47 exposed," the gentleman said.

48 And the old lady looked back at him and said:
49 "Sir, what you see down there is 85 years old. I just
50 bought this hat yesterday."

1 (Applause.)
2 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: That could
3 probably be me in a few years. But I better be careful.
4 This next guy sounds a lot like Lyle.

5 An elderly couple was on a cruise and it was
6 really stormy. They were standing on the back of the boat
7 watching the moon and a wave came up and washed the old
8 lady overboard. They searched for days and couldn't find
9 her, so the captain sent the old man home and he promised
10 that he would notify him as soon as he found out
11 something. Three weeks later finally the old man got a
12 fax from the ship, and it said: "Sorry, sir, to inform
13 you we found your wife. She died in the ocean. We hauled
14 her up on the deck and found an oyster attached to her
15 butt. Inside was a pearl worth \$50,000. Please advise."

16 The old man faxed back: "Send me the pearl and
17 re-bait the hook."

18 (Applause.)

19 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: Madam
20 President, this does conclude my platform remarks, but may
21 I take a point of personal privilege?

22 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes, you may.

23 DISTINGUISHED GUEST CHAIRMAN WORKMAN: I want to
24 thank all of the members for the cards and the flowers and
25 the prayers and thoughtful gifts at the loss of my
26 granddaughter. I was overwhelmed by the support. We've
27 always talked about being family and I never realized what
28 a real family that I have the privilege to have. I love
29 you all. Thank you.

30 (Applause.)

31 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Love you too. Can
32 I have my Compasses Anita Biggs, Pilar Reyes, LuAnn
33 Capazzi, Linda Fercho please come to the stage. Come on
34 up, Compasses.

35

36 ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONVENTION REPORT

37

38 ADVISORY COMMITTEE BIGGS: All right. We're the
39 Advisory Committee for Madam President Wendy. And, Madam
40 President Wendy --

41 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Yes.

42 ADVISORY COMMITTEE BIGGS: -- since our midyear
43 meeting, our great USO show -- how many got to come to the
44 USO show?

45 (Applause.)

46 ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESIDENT BIGGS: Those of you
47 who did had a wonderful time. Your Compasses have kept
48 your ship on course. We have weathered any storms that
49 blew our way. They didn't have a chance against us
50 because we were full of hot air. We were able to conduct

1 a successful conference call to handle any questions.
2 With that said, you have done a great job and we were
3 happy to assist you in any way we could. We wish for you
4 a continued successful convention as has been already with
5 smooth seas and calm winds ahead. We thank you so much
6 for this appointment.

7 And would any of these directional functioning or
8 dysfunctional Compasses like to offer any information?

9 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: And you're kind of
10 wondering how I got through the year.

11 ADVISORY COMMITTEE REYES: Madam President, I
12 would like to thank you for this appointment. And it is
13 an utter pleasure to be at your service at any time, but
14 you made it easy for us. And for most of all, we would
15 like to congratulate you for a very outstanding service
16 you have done for our department as our President.
17 Congratulations.

18 (Applause.)

19 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: And I want to
20 give a shout out to LuAnn Capazzi who made our beautiful
21 vests which I received so many compliments on.

22 (Applause.)

23 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: Madam
24 President, we have a little gift for you. This one we're
25 going to pull out and let everybody read. "Work like a
26 captain, party like a pirate." Or a winch, in your case.

27 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: A winch in my
28 case. Thank you very much, ladies.

29 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT FERCHO: And a personal
30 point of privilege. I want to thank everyone for all the
31 cards and prayers that I have received this year having my
32 breast cancer come back after 20 years. But doing
33 excellent, doing well, having a great time. So I guess
34 the Dear Lord said you haven't made Dennis miserable
35 enough yet. You have to stay there, lady.

36 (Applause.)

37 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CAPAZZI: It's been a
38 great year, Madam President. We've had fun sailing over
39 smooth sails and some not so. But, you know, that's the
40 way it goes. We wish for you a great day, a great
41 evening, and tomorrow there you will be. That's the hard
42 point going down that aisle on your way out the door. But
43 we love you.

44 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT BIGGS: Sometimes it's
45 a gift.

46 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CAPAZZI: Yes. On one
47 side of you is yes. The other side is awe, okay. We love
48 you and we were so happy to be here for you all year.

49 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much.

50 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: She needs to get
2 to a chair. Okay. I can't do this next one because this
3 voting situation -- this voting situation has sort of
4 thrown a kink in our -- yes, so I'm going to do some
5 citations now.

6 Can I have Jennifer Bieger come up to the stage,
7 please? I'm sorry? Okay. So for all of you that don't
8 know, Jennifer Bieger's husband is ill again. She has
9 really struggled this year with him and his health, which
10 I fully understand. So this is a certification of
11 appreciation. It's awarded to Jennifer Bieger,
12 Department -- what is she? Yeah, Public Relations, that's
13 it. I didn't know what "PR" stood for. In recognition
14 for devoted service to God and country and in sincere
15 appreciation for reporting at midyear The American Legion
16 Auxiliary Public Relations Program. And this is the
17 National Public Relations Committee. So that's a very
18 nice award for her.

19 (Applause.)

20 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I will make sure
21 that she gets this. And then we have District 20, Nancy
22 Heinisch. Could you please come up front? Are you here?
23 This is a certification of appreciation. This
24 certification is gratefully presented to Nancy Heinisch,
25 Western Division Public Relations Chairman, in recognition
26 for devoted service for God and country and sincere
27 appreciation for reporting at end year to the American
28 Legion Public Relations Program. And this is from the
29 National Public Relations Committee. Congratulations.

30 (Applause.)

31 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Madam President
32 Wendy? Excuse me. I have a message. District 25, they
33 need lunch and purse for Terri Granado.

34 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I'm sorry?

35 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: Terri Granado. We
36 need her purse and lunch for Terri Granado, District 25.

37 DISTRICT 25 DELEGATE: We have her purse, but not
38 her lunch.

39 PARLIAMENTARIAN DeLASHMIT: All right. That will
40 do. She needs her medication.

41 DISTRICT 25 DELEGATE: I'm going to check outside
42 if her husband is there with her lunch.

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Thank you
44 very much. Okay. I'm going to have Terry Mikesell come
45 up.

46 And, Diane, are you able to come up or -- okay.
47 She's going to represent the Constitution & Bylaws Ad Hoc
48 Committee and give us -- and Melanie Taylor. I'm sorry.
49 She's here so those are the three. Diane won't be because
50 she's in taking care of the voting.

1 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Our Chairman
2 Diane DeLashmit wrote this, but I will read it.

3
4 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS AD HOC COMMITTEE CONVENTION REPORT

5
6 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Madam
7 President Wendy, I present the members of this committee,
8 Terry Mikesell and Melanie Taylor. It was this
9 committee's intent to have the New Department
10 Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules ready to be voted
11 on at this meeting. Unfortunately, that has not happened.
12 Due to my illness, I realize that I was not able to make
13 the April deadline for Constitution & Bylaws changes to be
14 submitted to the Department Office. In addition, there
15 are a few items that need to be further researched before
16 we can move forward.

17 Our goal is to have a draft of the Constitution,
18 Bylaws and Standing Rules ready for the DEC in January to
19 be distributed for review and then voted on at the
20 convention in Sacramento.

21 If anyone is thinking of making any changes to
22 any existing documents, please advise us so we can work
23 them into the new documents. One possible change is to
24 make Second Vice President in the unit an optional office
25 as many of the small units are having trouble getting
26 enough officers to fill all the positions, especially
27 since an officer can only hold one elected office at a
28 time. A change for district officers not to be restricted
29 to only holding one office whether elected or appointed is
30 being considered, and the term of office of the National
31 Executive Committeewoman is being discussed.

32 This is a very tedious process, so please let us
33 know by November 1st of any other changes you might want
34 to consider. We will be putting our full effort into
35 getting this done by January.

36 Madam President, this concludes our report.

37 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you so much,
38 ladies.

39 (Applause.)

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Well, we're
41 just speeding right along. Now we weren't going to do the
42 Finance today, however, at this point we cannot do that
43 until members that are in counting the ballots are out
44 here to be able to vote on the budget.

45 So yes, at this point we're going to have a
46 recess here in the room. So, ladies, please stay in the
47 room. I thought we danced enough. We might need to dance
48 a little more, but we're hoping -- we've got to check and
49 see how long they're going to be and then we can do the
50 Finance. So we are really, really early to flock. I must

1 be a speed demon here. Come on; get it done. So enjoy
2 talking to your neighbors and we'll get back to you as
3 soon as we can.

4 (Recess.)

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Could I ask that
6 we have a volunteer to work the doors, to be at the doors.
7 I would like Gwen to take a break and eat her meal, so can
8 somebody stand there? Thank you so much. I'd like you to
9 sit down. Thank you. Thank you very much.

10 (Recess.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies, I
12 don't know if there's any Juniors in here. Okay. I see
13 some. They need to be dismissed. I just told they've got
14 to go. So, Juniors, thank you for coming, but you must go
15 now so that you can be ready for the bus and all that. So
16 have a good time. Be safe. Represent us good.

17 (Applause.)

18 (Recess.)

19 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ladies, all
20 right. We're going to reconvene because this is -- the
21 ballot reading is taking longer, so we're going to have
22 Terry Mikesell come up and give her committee report for
23 Finance. This is not the budget. This is just her
24 budget. We're going to do the budget in the morning. I'm
25 so sorry, but -- the tail of the whale is coming. We have
26 Brenda Preston, Linda Hayes, and Terry Mikesell.

27
28 FINANCE COMMITTEE CONVENTION REPORT

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30 FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MIKESELL: The Finance
31 met on June 22nd, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. in the Raincross A of
32 Riverside Convention Center. I should have changed that
33 to 9:00 a.m. because we met early.

34 Linda Hayes was appointed Secretary, Brenda
35 Preston offered prayer, and Linda Workman was appointed
36 Sergeant-at-Arms. A total of 17 district delegates
37 answered roll call. There were three visitors present.
38 The committee agreed upon the following report: The code
39 was read with no changes.

40 Madam Department President, by direction of the
41 committee, I move adoption of nothing. Thank you. That
42 concludes my report.

43 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. Ruby, do
44 you have any communications?

45 SECRETARY/TREASURER KAPSALIS: None.

46 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, yeah, none.
47 Susie?

48 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Because we
49 moved the banquet downstairs, anybody with a table number
50 higher than 15, you're sitting in a new place because I

1 only have 15 tables down there and that's why I've been up
2 here. My eyes are tired trying to figure out where to put
3 people. But I do have lists of where you're going to be
4 seated. Come look for me, but don't find me. And if I
5 forget to turn the lights on a table display, will you
6 turn them on for me, please? Thank you.

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Thank you, Susie.
8 Also we will be retiring the district colors tomorrow
9 instead of today because we don't have to today.

10 All right. Now I am going to adjourn this --
11 okay. Susie wants to bring some information from
12 National.

13 NEC MEMBER TOZIER: Ladies, it's going to be
14 addressed. Ruby brought it up in her -- someone did in
15 her presentation that they're talking about a rate
16 increase of three cents. \$3. I'm sorry. I'll take the
17 three cents. I'll take the three cents. No, \$3, and that
18 will raise your dues. You'll have to send \$20 to
19 Department and they'll take their share and National will
20 take theirs.

21 I wanted to feedback from you because those of
22 you who are going to be voting at convention. Personally
23 I don't want it. The problem is membership is going down.
24 They have -- they want to keep their existing staff so the
25 costs are -- you know, they have their fixed costs and
26 stuff like that. So as membership goes down, the costs
27 are going to be still there. You're going to have to pay
28 for it someday or another and that's how they're doing it
29 is through the dues, so --

30 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Madam
31 President, Bonnie Christner, Past Department President. I
32 don't know about you, ladies. I just -- because my
33 membership is going down and we cannot survive on the
34 money that we were making. I've already lost some of my
35 ladies, older time ladies that have been members for years
36 because I raised the dues \$5 in our unit. Now what's
37 going to happen? Now at this rate they're going to raise
38 our dues, and then I'm going to be in the same boat as I
39 was before.

40 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Madam Vice
41 President Loretta Marsh, could you please take the
42 station?

43 Okay. Ladies, I had a nice long weekend with our
44 National President and we spoke about the dues increase.
45 And really truly part of the issue, and I'm going to be
46 frank with all of you, part of the issue is National wants
47 to pay people to do what we are forced to have volunteers
48 do.

49 I personally have told the National President
50 that I do not think that this is good for our units. Our

1 units are struggling, our units have to get up and do all
2 of the work that needs to be done. We collect all the
3 money, we do all the things. Why can't National have
4 volunteers come and take care of what they need to get
5 done.

6 (Applause.)

7 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: And I am very
8 happy to tell you the National President feels the same
9 way.

10 (Applause.)

11 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: So I know that she
12 has talked to lots of NEC asking them to really consider
13 what is best. And then when we go, have an open mind to
14 listen to what they have to say, but then know what's best
15 for our units. And I -- because I'm standing over here, I
16 can say I personally do not think they need any more money
17 at this time. Start getting volunteers to do what needs
18 to be done. That is my personal opinion, and I'll share
19 it with anybody that asks me. So anyway --

20 (Applause.)

21 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Does anybody
22 else have any comments? I'm voting no. I know I'm voting
23 no. I admit we have \$1 left from our dues and we raise
24 our money by doing food for the bingos. That's how we
25 raise our money. You know, so if that means we would have
26 to raise our dues \$5 to cover that dues increase, I can't
27 afford it. I'm like a lot of you. I'm on a fixed income
28 and I pay several dues. It's awfully expensive, but we
29 have to get the word out to the other delegates. And, you
30 know, it's very hard. Everybody has to trim down, you
31 know, and use the volunteers.

32 Our hospitals use volunteers. If they price the
33 cost of the volunteers, just like they do the VA hospital,
34 take all the hours and they price it out so they show the
35 cost savings for the volunteers. So yeah, you are a very,
36 very important person. You save the VA and the government
37 a lot of money. So why can't National do that.

38 (Applause.)

39 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Are there --
40 yes.

41 POPPY CHAIRMAN VINCENT: Okay. I just want to
42 say something. I was going to raise our dues to 25 and my
43 unit decided, no, we're going to have another fundraiser
44 to raise the money, that difference so we don't have to
45 raise our dues. So that's what we did. We had another
46 fundraiser that year and every year thereafter.

47 But also I wanted to say we're losing members no
48 matter what. I mean, we're going to lose them if we raise
49 the per capita or we're going to lose them if we don't.
50 Yeah, we've all got to work. We've all got to work to

1 renew our members and -- yeah. Thank you.

2 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Are there any
3 other comments?

4 DISTRICT 25 DELEGATE COPEN: Madam President, Pat
5 Copen, incoming President of Unit 497, 25th District.
6 This year I lost my husband. When I lost my husband, I
7 lost \$1800 a month. Our organization is filled with
8 volunteer senior citizens who are on fixed incomes, and
9 when your spouse dies, you lose part of that income, yet
10 every year they're raising everything: utilities, water,
11 gas. This is a volunteer organization and it should be
12 volunteer from the bottom to the top.

13 (Applause.)

14 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Thank you.

15 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE STEWART: Hi there. Rebecca
16 Stewart, District 24, Unit 43. This is an observation on
17 National. When we get the Auxiliary News magazine,
18 beginning -- they usually show all the officers and
19 workers that are hired in National. And I don't know if
20 anyone's noticed it, but some of those individuals who are
21 workers, who are directors have an assistant. And the
22 assistant has an assistant. And the assistant has an
23 assistant.

24 Now National says they need people. They need
25 the funds to help pay. They're paying for their office
26 staff, for their workers, whichever they may want to call.
27 And I would like to know when the National Executive
28 Committeewomen from each state meet with the National
29 office, do they ever make this observation to the board?
30 And if so, it would be nice to say maybe if you let some
31 of your workers, reduce your workers, it would help. And
32 then to also understand that if, as you said, we are
33 volunteers. They should have in their office volunteers
34 as well. Observation.

35 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Thank you.

36 (Applause.)

37 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: If the
38 discussion is closed, no one else wants to speak.

39 DISTRICT 13 DELEGATE DESTRANGIO: I have a
40 question.

41 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Sure.

42 DISTRICT 13 DELEGATE DESTRANGIO: Hi. Sandy
43 Destrangio, District 13, Post 318. So I know if I were a
44 coach and I had an assistant, I get paid for them. Okay.
45 Can everyone hear me? Okay. So should I repeat
46 everything I said?

47 Hi. I'm Sandy Destrangio from District 13, Post
48 318. I know if I were a coach, if I had an assistant I
49 would pay for them out of my wages. Does National do that
50 with their assistants?

1 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: No.

2 DISTRICT 13 DELEGATE DESTRANGIO: So I feel like
3 that's something that should also be brought up.

4 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT TOZIER: Usually
5 corporations have budgets per departments and each
6 department is only allotted so much money to spend and
7 they have to decide -- you know, they have their wish list
8 and you decide what you can have and what you can't have.
9 Susie Tozier. The court reporter is way over there and
10 she can't see me.

11 In regards to -- I heard rumors in February that
12 they were thinking about doing this. The first time I
13 really heard of it was when Ruby announced if the -- when
14 they went to the leadership workshop, her and Loretta. So
15 that was the first I ever heard about, you know, it was
16 going to come out.

17 But basically in any organization as far as I'm
18 concerned, business or otherwise, because I worked -- I
19 started out as a small company, you know how they buy and
20 buy and buy and then they split, split, split and then
21 they go away. Well, as work goes away or things start
22 trimming down, you have to trim down your budgets to
23 figure out how to do things smoother. And I don't know.

24 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: Bonnie
25 Christner, District 27, Past Department President. If we
26 don't have so much membership and that's why they're
27 saying that they need to raise our dues to pay the people
28 that are working in their offices, if they don't have that
29 much membership to process, why do they need more people
30 to process it?

31 (Applause.)

32 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT CHRISTNER: I mean it
33 doesn't make sense to me. I mean, I do all the stuff in
34 my unit and it doesn't take me long now because my
35 membership is lower than it was a few years ago. So, you
36 know, I could log my hours and pay myself, but, you know,
37 that's not going to work either. So we don't have that
38 many members. Why is it taking more people and more money
39 to process our membership.

40 (Applause.)

41 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Okay. Any
42 further discussion?

43 VA&R CHAIRMAN CANNON: Yes, over here. Yes.
44 Joan Cannon, VA&R Chairman. I was also with Ruby and
45 Loretta. And in my past life I worked for the federal
46 government. We did a lot of work putting in computer
47 systems. I was a systems analyst and we had a lot of
48 consultants. While I was there at the leadership
49 conference in May, I lost count of how many consultants
50 gave us, you know, a little talk on different subjects.

1 And I know from my past work life before I retired,
2 consultants are very, very expensive.

3 So, you know, maybe that little assistant is not
4 making that much, but those consultants are making a lot
5 of money. And maybe we even need to talk about rethinking
6 the consultants, and that would probably get rid of two
7 consultants and we probably don't have to worry about
8 membership raises for many, many years. Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Yes.

11 DISTRICT 26 PRESIDENT JOHNSTON: Louann Johnston,
12 26th District President. I move that our California
13 delegation vote against the dues increase.

14 (Applause.)

15 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Loretta, can
16 I say something?

17 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: It has been
18 moved and seconded.

19 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Can I say
20 something?

21 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: We need to --

22 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Loretta?

23 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Yes.

24 DISTRICT 24 DELEGATE SQUIRE: Thank you. Leilani
25 Squire, District 24, Unit 43. I would rather -- I would
26 be a cheap consultant; you can hire me. Anyway, sorry, I
27 would be very discouraged because I work hard as a
28 volunteer and I know many ladies do. It would be
29 discouraging to me personally to know that the money that
30 I have to pay goes to something else that could be done
31 perhaps by a volunteer. And so I don't think it's a good
32 idea. And also we are the voices of the people, so our
33 voice is very important to say what we believe. That's
34 what I think.

35 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: That's why you
36 get a vote when you go. And we can --

37 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Madam
38 President?

39 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Yes.

40 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: I think it's
41 inappropriate for us to vote on this motion at this time
42 because our delegates and alternates are not chosen yet
43 and so they wouldn't have any clue that we had already
44 done this. Thank you.

45 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Okay. At this
46 time a vote is out of order. So any other -- if not,
47 Wendy, do you have -- President, do you have anything more
48 you have to say before you have to shut up about it?

49 (Applause.)

50 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: I said that

1 because she kept saying --

2 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: May I, Madam Vice
3 President?

4 DEPARTMENT VICE PRESIDENT MARSH: Yes.

5 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: I will let you
6 ladies know that last night I joined the Past Presidents
7 Parley group. Mean, mean women. They will suffer when
8 it's her turn. She will suffer.

9 One last thing. I don't think it's fair to force
10 somebody to vote on something; however, I do think that
11 the delegates and alternates that go to National represent
12 all of us. It is our jobs to tell our delegates how we
13 feel so that they know when they're voting, they're
14 representing what we want. Not just themselves, but what
15 we, California, wants. So it doesn't really need to take
16 a vote. They should hear by your applause or your
17 comments how you feel. So if you're not sure, talk to
18 your delegates. Tell them how you feel about the
19 situation.

20 (Applause.)

21 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Okay. The
22 conversation is over. I was on a break time back there,
23 but you will suffer.

24 Okay. Ladies, it looks like this is -- it looks
25 like this is going to take a few more minutes. So we've
26 sat here long enough and I believe that we should recess
27 this meeting until 8:30 a.m. tomorrow. I hope to see you
28 all at the banquet tonight. No host cocktails will be at
29 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be at 7:00. The Convention
30 Committee has prepared great entertainment for us, so I
31 hope you are all going to see that. See you tomorrow
32 morning.

33 PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MIKESELL: Madam
34 President, ladies, bring your budget back tomorrow. You
35 will not get another copy.

36 DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT O'BRIEN: Oh, yes, please.
37 (The American Legion Auxiliary Convention
38 was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.)
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